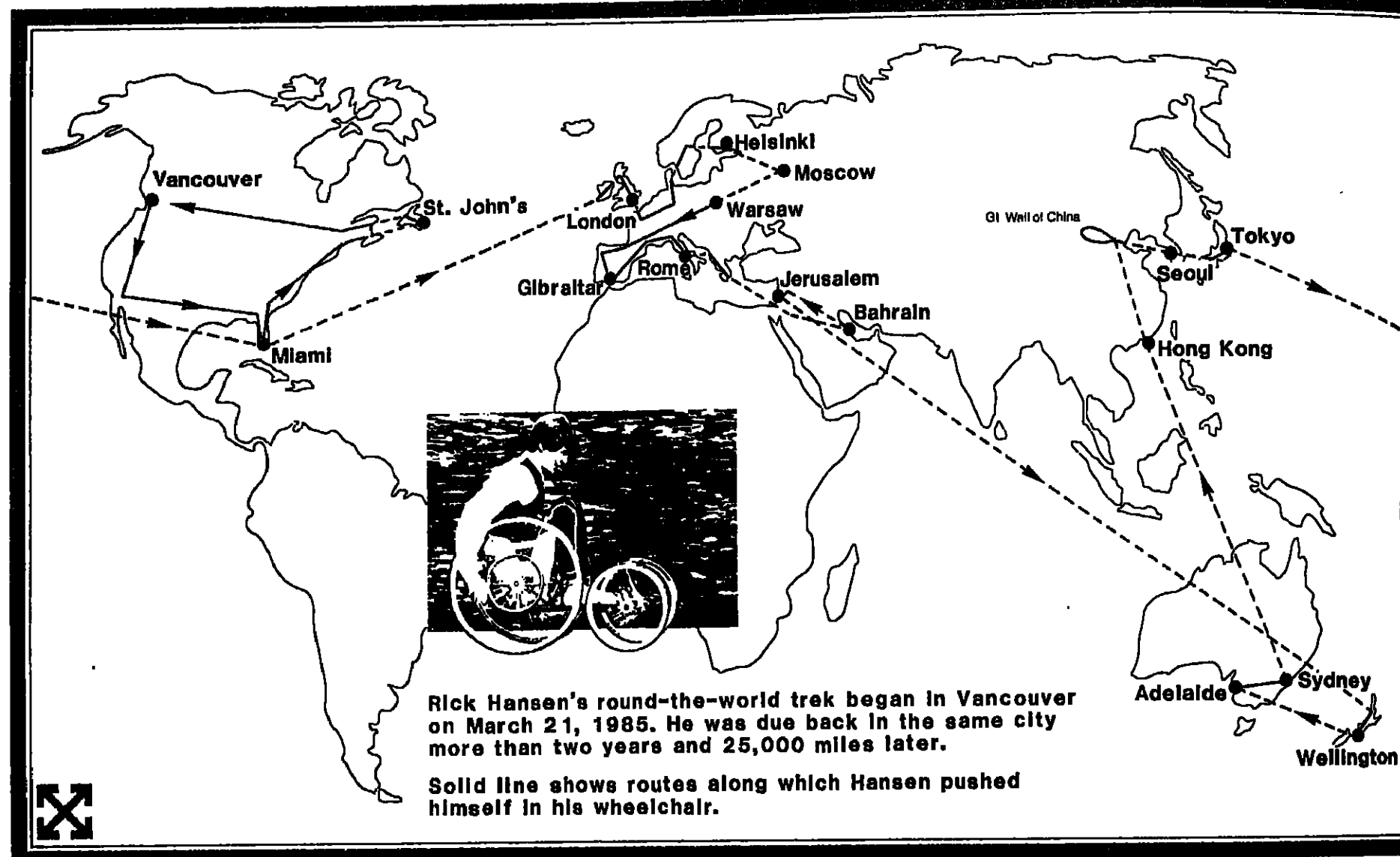


MAN IN MOTION MARATHON



Rick Hansen's round-the-world trek began in Vancouver on March 21, 1985. He was due back in the same city more than two years and 25,000 miles later.

Solid line shows routes along which Hansen pushed himself in his wheelchair.

By Karim H Karim
Special to The Star

MONTREAL — A 29 year-old paraplegic is nearing completion of an astonishing wheelchair odyssey around the world. In a two-year "Man in Motion" tour, Canadian Rick Hansen has pushed himself through 34 countries in a bid to raise \$7.5 million for the disabled.

Hansen has been paralysed from the waist down since his back was crushed in a 1973 road accident in his home town, Williams Lake, in the Interior of British Columbia. He is scheduled to complete the 40,073 km marathon on 22 May where it began, in Vancouver, on Canada's west coast.

By early May, Hansen had collected \$6.75 million and was hoping to raise the remainder on the final lap of his journey across Canada. Apart from collecting funds for the physically disabled, Han-

This month Canadian Rick Hansen is due to complete an extraordinary journey around the world. Hansen, paralysed from the waist down, has travelled nearly 40,000 km by wheelchair to raise money for the disabled and raise public awareness of their capabilities and needs.

sen — who has a university degree in physical education — has tried to create awareness of the capabilities and needs of handicapped people. His extraordinary resolve in wheeling himself across four continents and five mountain ranges in temperatures ranging from the sub-tropical to minus 30C has attracted widespread attention.

Hansen now is a familiar figure throughout Canada as he approaches the final stages of his tour by crossing the Rocky Mountains. The early part of the Man in Motion's journey, however, attracted little attention. "In the beginning it was really hard to get the mes-

sage out," he said. "I didn't expect marching bands and people lining the streets, but I didn't imagine we would be ignored." Only 300 people saw Hansen off on 21 March, 1985, when he left Vancouver with a crew of seven following in a small truck.

Now, as he wheels westward through the country, thousands of well-wishers gather at city boundaries and fund-raising rallies to shake his hand and hear him speak. Often the entire populations of small towns turn out to greet him. Hansen has managed to do things on his worldwide trek that few paraplegics would dream of attempting.

Although refused permission to tour in the Soviet Union, he was allowed to cross the Allenby Bridge between the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Jordan, and to wheel over the Great Wall of China. His efforts to tackle the slopes of the ancient wall in April 1985 were described by Michael Reid, a tour member, as "one of the hardest things I've seen Rick do." Reid said, "The incline was so steep that he had to use every ounce of strength to push the wheels forward, then catch them from behind so he didn't fall back. But he wouldn't give up."

Hansen rides a specially-designed four-wheel-drive chair that allows him to travel at higher speeds than with a conventional chair and change positions so as to shift the stress on his arms. Sitting close to the ground with legs strapped together, he is on the road for six hours a day, covering an average of 80 km.

When the tour started, crew members estimated they had just enough money to last a week. Corporate sponsors came to the

rescue, however, and the tour has had a total budget of \$1.2 million. Hansen, who has been required to wear clothing displaying the commercial logos of his major financial supporters, said he even had to turn down a wicker cap knitted for him by his mother.

The Hansen story acquired a fairy-tale touch when in July last year, while crossing the American state of North Carolina, he became engaged to Amanda Reid, his physiotherapist on the tour. The couple met in 1984 at a Vancouver rehabilitation center for the handicapped where Reid worked. But the tour remained the first priority. Said Hansen, "We agreed at the very beginning that if it came to push or shove between the goals of the tour and our relationship, the relationship would go." The couple plan to marry in October, and Hansen hopes to return to his career as a physical education instructor and to competitive athletics.

Before setting out to circle the world, he won championships in wheelchair volleyball and basketball, and 19 international wheelchair marathons, including that linked with the prestigious Boston Marathon in 1983. Hansen is keen to take part in the 1992 Olympic Games and has been pressing the International Olympic Committee to have wheelchair sports recognized. While it has succeeded in spreading its universal message around the world, the Man in Motion tour has received its strongest support in its country of origin.

In 1980 and 1985, Canadians responded generously to the cross-country treks of one-legged runners Terry Fox and Steve Fonyo, which together raised more than \$28 million for cancer research. Hansen arrived on the

Atlantic coast of Canada on 25 August last year and has since been tracing the footsteps of his cancer-stricken forerunners. His message has come to have a special meaning for physically — and mentally-handicapped people.

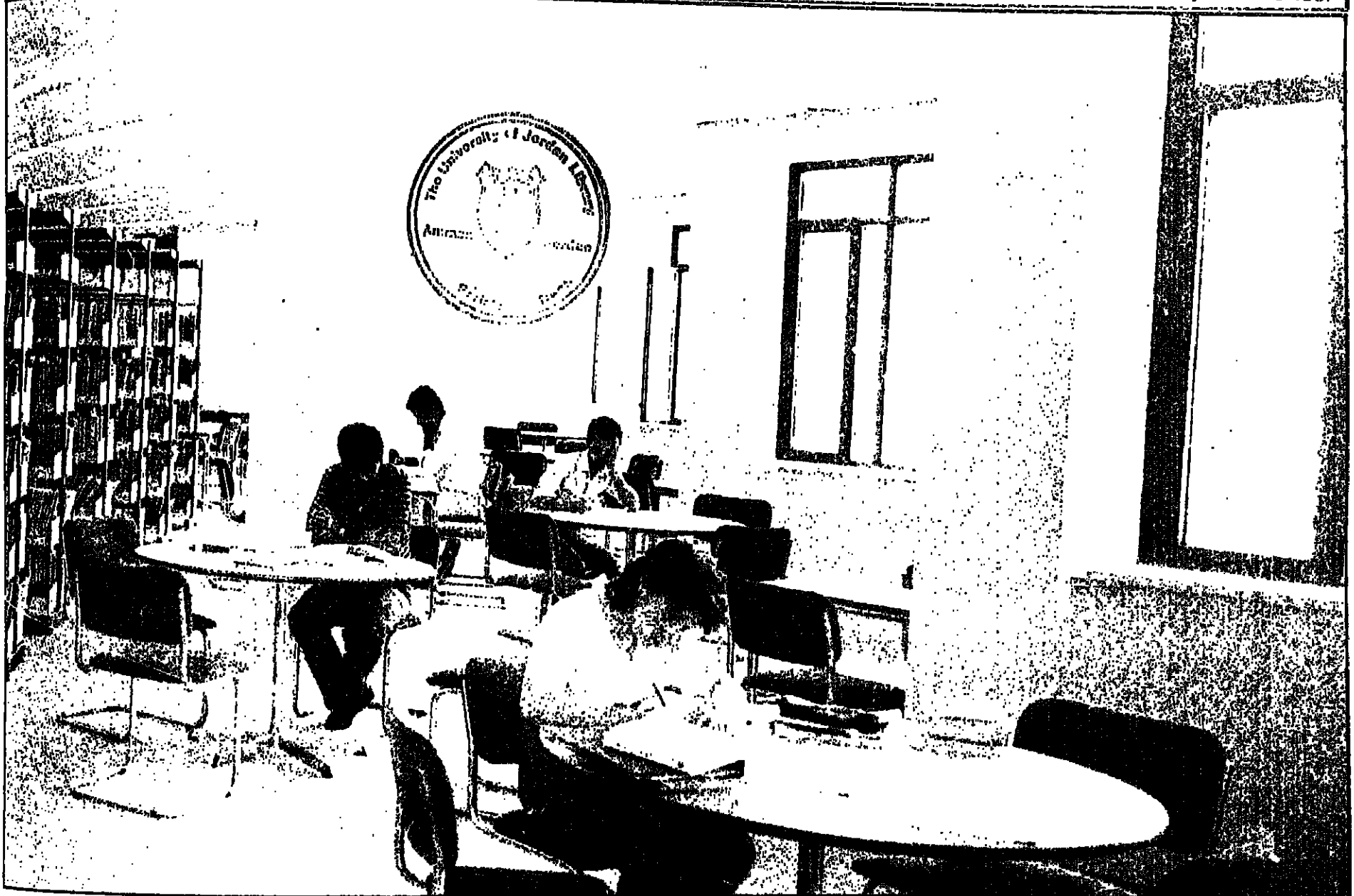
"While not one of my students would be able to tell you who the prime minister of Canada is, they can tell you who Rick Hansen is," said Sharon Malone, who teaches mentally disabled children in Hansen's home town.

However, not all handicapped North Americans agree with the aims of the Man in Motion tour.

Hansen has been criticized by Charles Carson, president of the American-based Spinal Cord Society (SCS), for creating the impression that all physically disabled people can get around without assistance. SCS is concerned that funds raised by the Man in Motion tour will be spent mostly on rehabilitation and wheelchair sports, with little remaining for research into a cure for spinal chord injuries.

Tour organizer Muriel Honey, however, said that equal amounts of the annual disbursements from the Hansen fund would be for research and for "rehabilitation awareness and critics also sports." Hansen's government and corporate donations that other wise might have gone to other worthy causes are being channelled to the high-profile Man in Motion tour.

While Ottawa has been cutting funding for social programmes and scientific research, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney handed a \$750,000 cheque to Hansen in front of television cameras last October. According to neurosurgeon Michael Fehlings of Toronto's Western Hospital, total government funding for spinal cord research — which he describes as "one of the most exciting areas of neuroscience" — amounted to \$225,000 in 1986.



Alternate education-open universities

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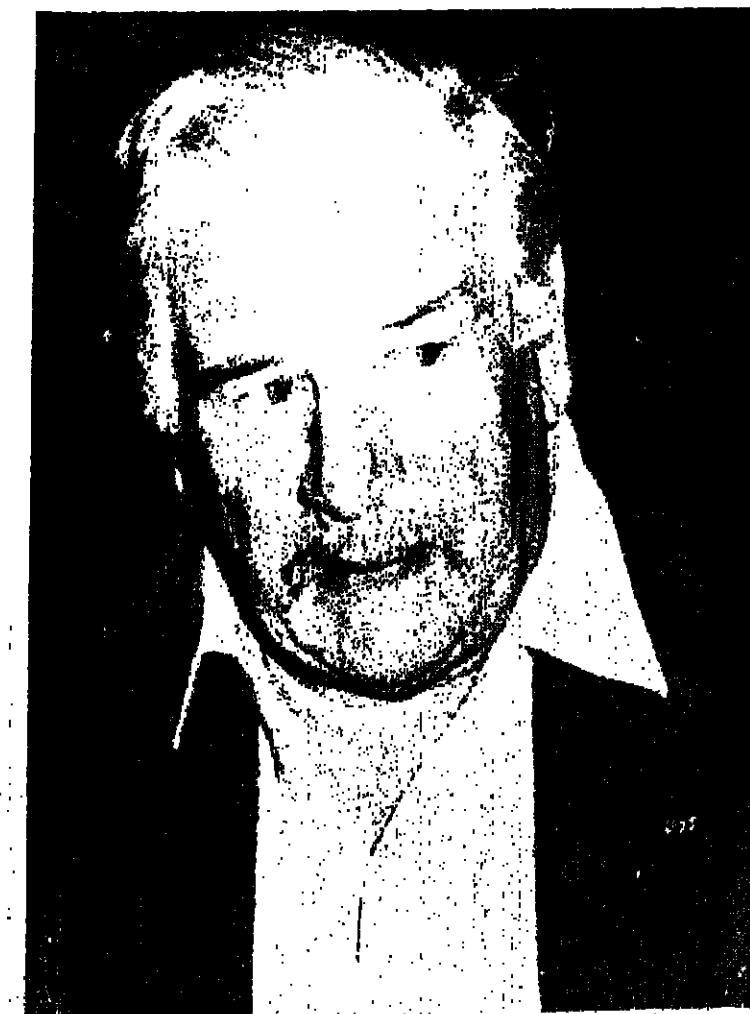
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Peter Ustinov page 7

Happy Eid

... The Star wishes to congratulate its numerous readers on the occasion of Eid el-Fitr. May it bring peace and prosperity to the Jordanian people.



The Arab Bank Ltd.

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Extend its heartfelt congratulations to

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and

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BIG SALE

Arab affairs through German eyes

By Wafa Abdel Hamid
Special to The Star

MIDDLE EASTERN politics has become the main attraction to most people of the world. The Gulf

war, the Lebanese sectarian strife, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the international peace conference on the Middle East. All these issues have attracted universal attention. Also, Western govern-

ments have become more involved in the Mideast events and their efforts are directed towards achieving peace after the turmoil.

"I have my doubts on the actual convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. This is because of two main reasons connected with the two parties concerned: Israel's position is very confused and uncertain. It is not clear how the conflict in the Israeli government will end up, and if elections do take place, the results are uncertain. Furthermore, the Arab camp is very divided and contradictions exist."

This was the impression of Mr Hans Hubner, a West German journalist on the situation in the Middle East. Mr Hubner was recently in Jordan to film a documentary programme on the prospects of convening a peace conference on the Middle East and how to solve the main problems of the Palestinians. The programme named "Auslandstudio" (International Studio), for the German television, is aimed at giving the



Mr Hans Hubner

German people an impression of what the people in Jordan feel about people at the centre of the

Middle East conflict — the Palestinians — and on relations between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"There are movements and much talk about the peace conference, and I want to portray how this reflects on the people concerned, i.e., the Palestinians. What their perspectives are, their fears, and what today's reality is because in the 70's, there was much talk about the Palestinian problem while a few years back, it seemed almost forgotten."

Mr Hubner, said that he chose Jordan for his programme as it is the main Arab country most concerned with the Palestinian problem and as His Majesty King Hussein has been directing his efforts towards convening a peace conference on the Middle East.

During his one-week visit to Jordan, Mr Hubner and his camera crew visited several refugee camps and met with some Palestinian families living there. They also met with families living in Amman. "My idea is to show how Palestinian families are living in the camps and in the capital. I wouldn't be giving a complete picture of the Palestinian way of life if I only met with families living in camps", explained Mr Hubner.

He has also met with Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh, Palestinian writers and personalities and several Jordanian journalists. Mr Hubner noted that Jordan is a very well organized country, security wise. "I believe there is a general sentiment of hopelessness... and very few people were optimistic of the possibility of convening an international peace conference."

When asked about German newspapers and the main news items they cover, Mr Hubner replied that it is usually Israeli news items that appear on the papers cover pages. Israeli reality is reflected more than that of the Arabs, in German newspapers. The Arab countries should have a coup d'état or commit terrorist actions in order to appear on cover pages. Lebanon's war is covered only when more than 100 people die. German newspapers are more interested in what the US or the Soviets have to say about the Middle East than what the Arabs actually express.

When asked about the effect of his international documentary programmes on the German public, Mr Hubner replied that his work provides the public with facts and first-hand information on several issues which he hopes would stir people's curiosity to acquire more information and to understand better what is actually taking place in the world.

"Such programmes are not easy to make. I have to choose my contacts in the country I visit, and follow the political and social developments of that country. I must understand the country's atmosphere in order to be just in analyzing the situation. One of the principles I follow is that I don't like to generalize and act as if I know everything. I believe it is very important to let them do the talking. Later, in my report I explain the reasons for my choice of people and make my final analysis of the situation on what I heard, saw and felt."

Mr Hubner started his career 20 years ago. He studied law, history and German literature and worked for several newspapers before he became involved with television in 1968.

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King Hussein in Saudi Arabia

His Majesty King Hussein and King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia held talks last Sunday evening in Mecca after the Ifar. The two leaders' talks covered means of settling inter-Arab differences in preparations for convening the 13th Arab summit in Riyadh and other bilateral relations. King Hussein and his accompanying delegation also performed the Umra.

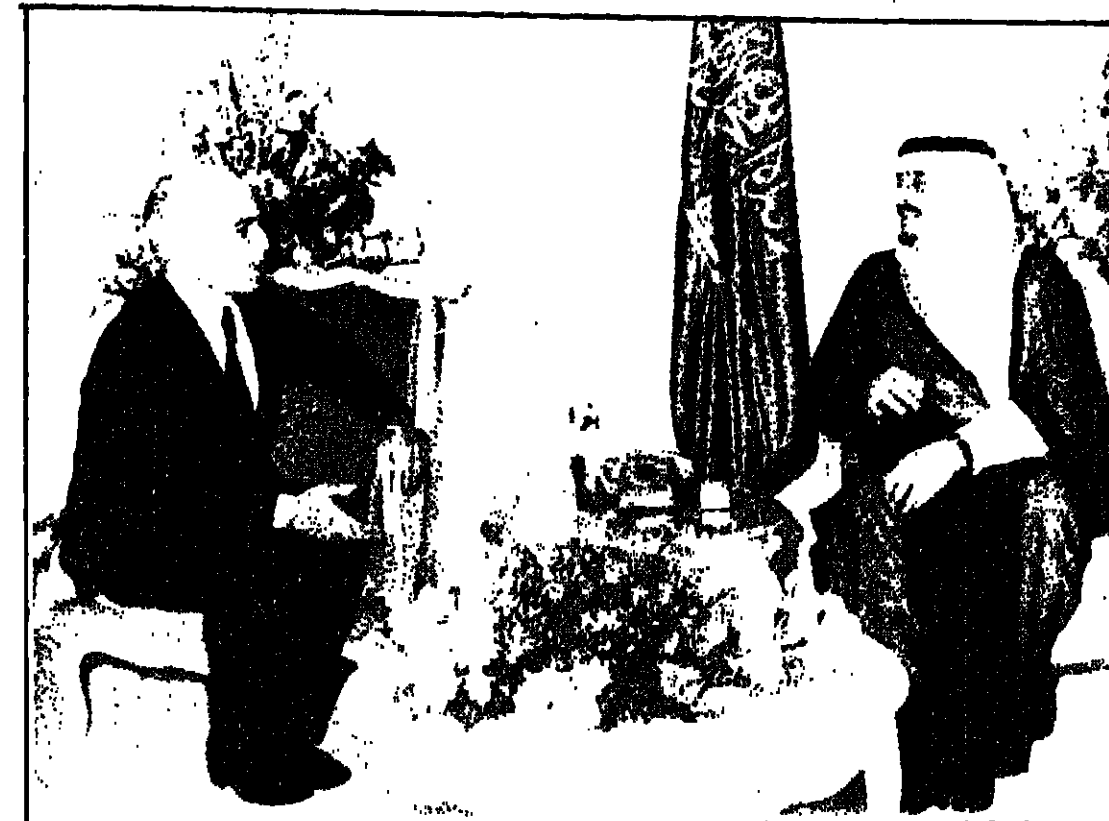
On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, Prime Minister Zaid Rifal, Court Minister Taher Al Maari, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb, Public Security Director-General Lt. General Abdul Hadi Al Majali and the Jordanian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Mohammad Rasoul Al Kallani.

King Hussein receives congratulatory messages

On the occasion of Jordan's 41st anniversary of its independence from Britain, King Hussein last Monday received cables of good wishes from King Hassan II of Morocco, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and Emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani.

King Hussein sends a cable

His Majesty King Hussein last Friday sent a cable to West German President Richard von Weiz-



His Majesty King Hussein holds talks with King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia

sacker congratulating him on his country's national day. In his cable, King Hussein wished the West German president continued good health and happiness and the West German people further progress and prosperity.

King Hussein attends prayer

His Majesty King Hussein last Friday attended prayers at the Fajha Mosque and listened to a

sermon, presented by Chief Islamic Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mhellan. In his sermon, Sheikh Mhellan called for the unification of the Arab and Muslim Worlds through discarding of differences. Sheikh Mhellan praised efforts made by His Majesty King Hussein to reduce Arab differences and enhance Arab solidarity.

King Hussein sends cable

His Majesty King Hussein

Crown Prince off to Britain

Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarah began a working visit to Britain last Friday. Prince Hassan will meet with a number of senior British officials to discuss co-operation between the two countries in a number of fields. Furthermore, Prince Hassan will take part in a number of cultural, scientific and industrial activities. He is expected to deliver an address on 2 June to outline the Jordanian five-year national development plan and Jordan's economic development.

Eid Al-Fitr

All government departments and public institutions in Jordan will be closed for four days in the coming week on the occasion of Eid Al Fitr, the feast that marks the end of Ramadan. A statement from the Prime Minister said that government offices and public institutions would close on Wednesday.

Independence anniversary

Jordan, last Monday celebrated the 41st anniversary of its independence from Britain which took place on 25 May, 1948. The occasion symbolizes the most cherished meaning of dignity and pride, attained through the wise leadership of the Hashemite family and the struggle of the Jordanian people.

PM hosts Ifar for King Hussein

Prime Minister Zaid Rifal last Monday held an Ifar in honour of His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of Independence day at the prime ministry gardens. Former and current ministers, members of both Houses of Parliament, undersecretaries of ministries and heads of public institutions and senior civil and army officials attended the Ifar.

nesday 27 May, and reopen on Sunday 31 May, to mark the occasion.

Tunisia's contribution

Jordan's Ambassador to Tunisia has met with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba and received a cheque as part of Tunisia's contribution to the reconstruction of the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Holy Rock in Arab Jerusalem.

Minister calls for more aid

The Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs, Marwan Dudin has called on the international community to help provide more aid to the Palestinian refugees living in Arab countries. He said that the educational and health services provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) for Palestine refugees were not sufficient. Mr Dudin, addressing a United Nations information delegation now visiting Jordan in the course of a tour of the Arab region at Unrwa's invitation, said that the Jordanian government continues to help and care for the displaced Palestinian people.

Policewomen institute moves into new premises

A spokesman for the Public Security Department (PSD) has stated that the Jordanian Policewomen Institute at Jabal Hussein will move to Hay Nazza after the Eid Al Fitr holidays. The new headquarters contain spacious lecture halls and rooms for sports and military training and can accommodate 500 trainees.

Al Faisali Sports, Cultural, and Social Club presents

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Charitable organization unfolds bold plans

By Ibtisam Dababneh
Special to The Star

AROUND JD 800,000 will soon be contributed to a number of charitable societies on both the East and West Banks of Jordan so as to help needy families, according to Dr Abdullah Khatib, president of the executive council of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS). He further added that JD 80,000 is earmarked for the various handicapped societies in accordance to certain criteria designed to measure the effectiveness of each charitable society. Another JD 320,000 will also be contributed to other charitable societies.

Dr Khatib explained that JD 200,000 is being allocated with the aim of carrying out projects considered as the priorities by the charitable organizations as stated by the GUVS general assembly. Such priorities, Dr Khatib added include the establishment of 50 kindergarten institutions in the East Bank and 30 on the West Bank, as well as supplying the required furniture and educational

be distributed among the needy families. "More than 10,000 people received donations and benefits during the month of Ramadan," says Dr Khatib. He further explained that the Zakat el-Fitr money is being given to the most needy families, which are known to the GUVS at present by the 180 charitable organizations in Amman.

However, around 200 poor and needy families have received commodities, in addition to donations which amounted to JD 1000 in the village of "Suma" in the Balqa governorate in a bid to help these people overcome their financial difficulties. The funds available to the GUVS comes from the following sources: National Lottery, The "Charitable Plaster" and the "If you don't need, we do" campaigns. The Charitable Plaster, Dr Khatib said, provided scholarships for 200 financially handicapped students last year (1986) to help them continue their higher education in the Jordanian universities. Dr Khatib hopes that the "charitable plaster" will also provide scholarships for another 200 needy students in 1987.

Furthermore, JD 100,000 has been allocated by the GUVS to enable it grant more scholarships to needy but clever students. Besides this, the GUVS is going on with its massive efforts to establish the Amal Cancer Centre at the University of Jordan hospital. Dr Khatib, in this regard, said that JD 1 million is the total amount of money collected so far from the

public to help establish the first stage of this important project.

"We hope that before the end of this year, the corner stone will be laid for this project," says Dr Khatib. The GUVS at the same time, is in the process of building the premises for the Amal Multihandicapped Centre to accommodate 100 clients, compared to the current rented one which caters for only 30 cases.

Recently, a decision was taken to provide a large number of charitable societies with 76 computer systems for this year. This is in line with the step designed with an aim of introducing new technology within the charitable societies and organizations, where needy children and students could have access to benefit from modern technology. Dr Khatib clarified that the process of introducing new technology of introduced to be a very successful programme, when around 80 computer systems were given to a number of charitable organizations during the year 1986.

Among the various projects to be carried out by the GUVS in the future are the "Senior citizens village project" to be established with an objective of serving and securing homes for about 100 senior citizens (aged people) who are in need of the right type of accommodation and services. This project, with land being provided by the government, will cost JD 250,000, and will be totally financed by the GUVS, Dr Khatib concluded.

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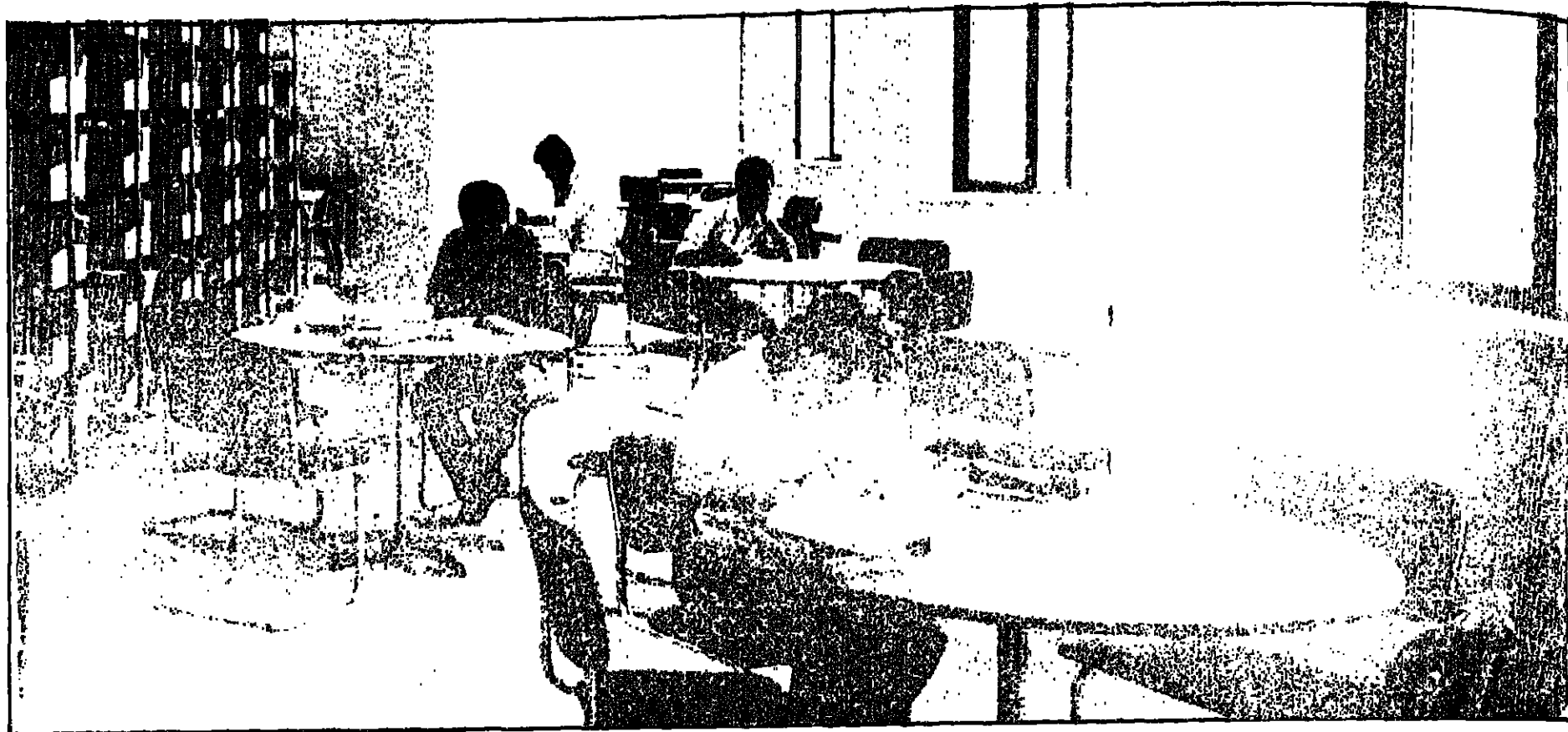
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By Venita Maudsley
Special to The Star

Alternate education

THE OPEN University (OU) which is now in its 20th year in England, has been described as the most exciting development in higher education this century. The idea behind it was to provide higher education for those people who, for one reason or another, were denied the chance of a traditional university education; since then tens of thousands of people have obtained degrees in a variety of subjects.

While about 30 per cent of the students who enrol are teachers who often wish to upgrade their qualifications, all other areas of society are represented including farm workers, factory workers, taxi-drivers and so on. Similarly, all ages above 21 years old are accepted; even one lady of 81.

People join for a wide variety of reasons, quite commonly simply because they want to learn, they enjoy the challenge and want to stretch themselves academically. It is not a second rate way of obtaining a degree and for this reason they do not accept 18-year olds who have just left school and have not been accepted by a normal university; neither is it a simple correspondence course.

When a person decides to join the OU, he applies to the central office. As there are normally many more applicants than places, there is a selection procedure which includes quotas for particular groups, but does not take any account of previous qualifications. Once this first selection is made, then students are chosen on a 'first-come first-served' basis. Offers are sent out to approximately 20,000 people; about 15,000 will take them up. The figures vary from year to year, but the OU will have about 50,000 students at any time.

After acceptance and paying of the fee, which is subsidized by the government, the student will be sent his course material. The OU books are written, published and printed by the staff of the University. They even have a design section which ensures that the material is clearly presented and easy to follow. The books contain the basic course that would normally be presented during lectures. In addition there are self-testing sections and tests which must be sent to your supervisor for continuous assessment of your progress.

Naturally, courses vary a great deal, some of the higher level ones require three long essays to be

- A distance university, in contrast to the traditional residential university, is a school in which the students are linked to the school via communications channels unique to the modern world — by mail, telecommunications, computer modem, or other means. Certain implications immediately follow from this. The role of the classroom is downplayed, and classroom instruction, in the sense of 'putting in' is all but eliminated. Instead, the educational process returns to the root meaning of education, educate, 'to bring forth.' This permits the greatest possible respect for the student's own individualism, initiative, and unique interests.



Young ladies of a local institution — they could in the future use the open university system to overcome social restraints

submitted over the year. Students are also sent details of TV and radio broadcasts and notes on the importance of the broadcast. They also have to buy text-books for their particular course as well as a selection of background reading books. The written word forms the basis of the course.

Broadcasting forms the next most important teaching medium.

Students will have to watch about one TV programme and listen to one or two radio programmes per unit per week. These are all at times when people working full-time are able to listen, e.g. from 6am to 7am, or from 5pm to 6pm with some late at night. They are always repeated later on in the week at a different time of the day.

The use of broadcasting varies greatly from faculty to faculty but it is probably true to say that these broadcasts are not lectures; they are designed to enlarge the horizons of the students; to provide a greater depth of understanding especially in areas where printed words are inadequate. This can take the form of discussions between experts, critical appreciation of sections of a play, compar-

ing TV series with the original novelists' intentions, appreciation of architectural design, computer simulations in mathematics and so on.

In addition, it provides the student with a 'personal' view of his supervisors, and gives a greater feeling of being a member of a university, not just an isolated correspondence course student.

Another important ingredient of the system are the study centres. There are about 300 scattered about Britain. In the study centres, students doing the same course can get together and discuss their work; they can also view videotapes and listen to cassettes of programmes that they may have missed. Every centre has a counsellor who can help them sort out problems, interpret the system for them if needed, and give general academic advice. The counsellor brings the system to a personal level outside the impersonal course books and radio programmes. There may also be some tutorials with visiting specialists from time to time.

Many courses, including all the first year 'foundation courses', have a compulsory week long summer school. This is particularly important with science courses in which a lot of this time will be spent in carrying out the practical work which would be impossible at home. By all accounts the summer schools are a great success, with the students from all walks of life coming together with a common interest and working hard for every second of the day.

Every course has some form of continuous assessment but, because of the difficulty of knowing what help students may have had at home, they also have a three-hour examination. The student builds up a number of credits from the courses he has taken and commonly after about six years will obtain an honours degree which is equivalent to a 'general honours' at other universities.

The Open University is now well established and fulfilling an important function in Britain by giving opportunities to people who would otherwise have had no chance of a university education. It is obviously ideal for countries which have only limited higher education facilities and could also be used by younger students who have had to leave schools for non-academic reasons. The concept of Open Education is clearly a potent one and it is interesting that at the first graduation ceremony, Paolo Freire was awarded an honorary degree for Freire's theme is: 'Education is liberation.'

Special to The Star

THE ENORMOUS progress in technology, education and mass communication, has made the modern world to recognize the necessity and importance of distant learning, and this has eventually led developed countries like the US, USSR, UK, Canada and Japan to start their own open universities. The same factor has urged us in the Arab World, to start considering the idea of establishing a well-developed open university.

This serious consideration resulted in the instituting of the Jerusalem Open University (JOU) project. A university which is expected to match and rise up to international standards and levels — its counterparts throughout the world.

Dr Walid Khamhawli, president designated of future this university, defines it as "a developed university for distant learning which is at providing the biggest number of Arabs and Palestinian youths with higher education and technical training while taking into account their present and special circumstances and the needs of their societies." This will be done, he says, with the full co-operation and integration with other higher education institutions in the occupied territory as well as other Arab countries by applying advanced technology and communication.

In 1976, upon request from the president of the Palestine National Council (PNC), a working team consisting of the representatives of the PNC and the Arab Social and Economic Development Fund (ASEDF), the PNC prepared a feasibility study on the possibilities of setting up an institution. Later on, the three sides agreed to entrust the UNesco with the task of conducting a full study provided that it be funded by both the UNesco and the ASEDF.

Finally in 1980, the UNesco general director handed the reports of a feasibility study to the Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). However, on the project did not start

unit 1985 due to certain circumstances.

Academic programmes

The Jerusalem Open University will offer six major programmes that has been carefully chosen to satisfy the needs of the Palestinian and Arab people.

Technology and applied science: Courses offered will cover general technological principles, electrical engineering and computer science. They will focus on the economic, technical and applied aspects of the majors.

House and family development: This is a major that will cover the social, economic education and health aspects of family and house affairs.

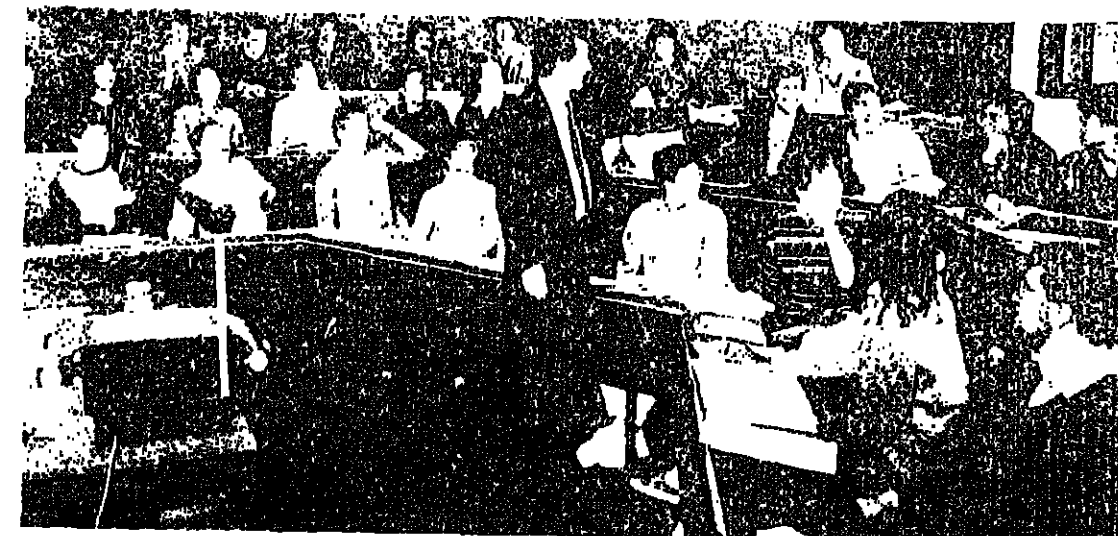
Land and local society: In this field, all subjects related to land, the village and society are to be studied.

Education and Training: This is meant to cover and improve the educational levels. The university will also offer 'core curricula' which deals with patriotic enlightenment, Islamic and Arab culture, English, and Arabic languages.

Main objectives

The idea of the JOU first originated to meet the needs and demands of the local society among which it will work and from where it will receive its students. It is not surprising therefore that the JOU has a number of ambitious objectives.

1. It seeks to ensure university education for thousands of Palestinian and Arab students as their number is increasing considerably every year.
2. It is determined to consider the steadfastness of the Palestinians in the occupied lands due to the necessity of improving their social and cultural levels. This will help considerably to thwart Israel expansionist policies.
3. It hopes to introduce modern technology into the society by applying development and technological devices and techniques such as computers.
4. It aims at establishing the democracy of university learning and making available to other universities.



Student Individualism and initiative is encouraged



Study centres bring students together to discuss their work

ties and intermediate colleges, the opportunities of making use of the curricula prepared for it.

Importance on the Arab level

It is but fair to state that the JOU is needed on the Arab level as much as on the Palestinian one. For, its open system answers the Arab society's needs for satisfying the growing demand for higher

education. It also contributes to the preparation of more qualified teachers and of widening the circle of specialists.

Financially, the university will save a lot in terms of finance as it does not require the students to study on full time basis. They could be engaged in any form of employment and at the same time acquire knowledge and skills from the open university. Evidently, the millions of dollars spent on Arab students studying abroad, will be reduced considerably. This is because the JOU saves them the trouble of seeking university education in places other than the Arab World.

Another reason worth mentioning for the need of the JOU is that it will cater for people in the lower class and those resident in the rural areas could benefit immensely. Women will also have the chance to make use of the facilities provided by it and in this way overcome the social restraints and boundaries that have prevented many of them from seeking higher education. Any lady could now cook her husband's dinner and then give her mind some academic satisfaction.

Conclusion

Among the recommendations arrived at in the seminar on 'The problems of higher education in the occupied territories' held in Amman in 1984, was that the

number of institutions should be increased so as to escape some of the defects of higher education.

Dr Khamhawli, however believes that the best solution lies in finding out that the JOU will take into account all the circumstances under which the Palestinians in and out of the occupied lands live. "It is the university of all the Arabs," he concludes.

The open system of the university will also be helpful in directing higher education towards specializations which the local markets lack. It will, hopefully, encourage immigrant and qualified Arabs to come back home and help push the wheel of progress.

As the JOU curricula is going to be within the reach of all other Arab universities, intermediate colleges, institutions and people in all other sectors could feed on its carefully selected and practically presented knowledge and information. This will help to unify the terminology, something whose implementation for which cries are being voiced out from all over the Arab World.

The mutual interaction between students and professors is the one, basic difference between the distant-learning system applied in the JOU and studying through correspondence as applied in other universities. Yet, it is this difference that makes the JOU more effective and more satisfactory to the local needs.

Correction

In last week's cover story 'Sait, past, present and future', the name of the Chairman of the SDC in a caption on page 5 should have read Mr Jaffer EL-SHAMIR, not Mr Jaffer el-Shamir. We deeply regret the error.

Israeli raids claim refugee casualties

AMMAN (STAR) — Thirty-one refugees were killed and 85 injured, 20 homes destroyed and 100 damaged in three Israeli air raids on the Salda area in the West Bank on 1 May. The first raid at least 18 people and 30. Some displaced refugees were among the casualties.

In el-Hilweh camp was raided at dawn on 6 May. Five refugees were killed and 25 injured, five homes destroyed and 100 damaged. Among the dead was a refugee girl who had come from Damascus to visit her uncle. The injured included a woman, an Agency team of 15 families whose homes had been destroyed or damaged received emergency supplies of blankets, kitchen utensils and mattresses.

Another eight refugees — among them women and children — died and 30 were injured when the camp was raided for a second time on 8 May. Fifteen shelters were destroyed and nine damaged. Unwra trucks with food, clothing and fuel got through to

Burj el-Barajneh on 12 May and Shatila on 13 May. On 14 May two armed men broke into the Lebanon Field Office in Beirut and stole a number of walkie-talkie radios. Sabra schools in Beirut opened again at the beginning of May, having been shut since 28 November last year. Among those who attended were 25 children from Shatila camp. Schools remained closed at Burj el-Barajneh camp. At Ein el-Hilweh camp, two were opened but then closed again due to the air raids. Rashidiyeh school in Tyre opened again on 14 May.

The government of Kuwait has pledged \$900,000 to Unwra's appeal for \$20.6 million in emergency aid for Palestine refugees in Lebanon. This brings to nearly \$11 million the total cash contributed or pledged for the appeal by governments, the European Community, non-governmental and other organizations and individuals. A further \$2,451,956 has been pledged or given in kind. Contributors include: Austria, Canada, Finland, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland and The

United Kingdom.

Eight Unwra staff members were killed and seven injured when an Agency minibus taking them home from work was hit by a local intercity bus in the Gaza Strip. The accident happened after duty hours on 2 May when the Unwra vehicle was stopping to let passengers off on the main highway between Khan Yunis and Gaza. The local bus ploughed into it from behind, killing the eight passengers instantly. Unwra's driver was cleared of responsibility but the injured driver of the local bus was under detention in hospital.

Jordanian Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin has called on the international community to shoulder its responsibility for the Palestine refugees by enforcing UN resolutions. He made his remarks when he received journalists who are taking part in a tour of Unwra operations. Mr Dudin said that Jordan supported efforts, in co-operation with Unwra, to provide better services and better living conditions for the refugees.

Jordan



A team member discusses health matters with waiting patients



Approaches to better health under discussion in the Mosque



Three small boys receive advice on good eating

New mission leaves for Sudan

I'M VERY happy to go a second, third or fourth time," said Dr Faisal Khoreis as he left last Saturday with the 11th Jordanian Medical Mission to Sudan. Dr Khoreis, a gynaecologist, was one of a team of 18, nine doctors and nine medical technicians and nurses, who left for a two months spell of work in Kass in the far west of Sudan.

In 18 months of activity, the teams, working under the auspices of the Jordan National Committee for Aid to Sudan, have renovated and equipped the hospital at Kass, the only medical facility in the region, and have been treating over 500 patients per day.

They have also introduced preventive health measures including a vaccination programme for children, health and nutrition education, malaria control and water disinfection. Activities are now to be expanded to include the provision of a piped water supply and the establishment of an agricultural school.

Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh, who was at the airport to say farewell to the team, told The Star that Jordan's aid to Sudan was significant because it shows that though "We receive help from others, we also have something to give," and he noted that "this sort of continuous assistance provided by Jordan is rare."

Dr Hamzeh said there is no time limit on the project and "it will keep going as long as necessary." Jordan Medical Council President Dr Anwar Bilbisi, who is a member of the Jordan National Committee, says the committee has no problem in finding staff who are willing to work in Sudan. He said the committee now has over 500 applicants waiting for a chance to go. And for doctors such as Dr Khoreis who was leaving for his second tour of duty, the reasons for going to Sudan are clear. "We are the same nation, he says, 'In the past, now and in the future we must be one. It is like our own country, there are some difficulties, but we can cope.'" (PAD)

Drugs and health: using antibiotics with care

By Mutale Chlangwa
Special to The Star

THE NEXT time you get ready to introduce an antibiotic of some kind into your system, why not stop and ask yourself if you really need it. You could be doing yourself more harm than good by taking it.

It seems like most of us have a favourite antibiotic which we believe is able to cure everything and anything that ails us. To a lot of people, antibiotic is synonymous to the more well known penicillin, which was discovered in London in 1927 by Alexander Fleming. It was the first antibiotic to be obtained from antibacterial products of micro-organisms in order to be used therapeutically. Antibiotics cannot only be produced by nature from molds or bacteria but it is also possible to produce them synthetically. Penicillin and other antibiotics are especially effective and powerful when used in treatment since they alter the metabolism of germs with which they come into contact; especially those that are already in the reproductive process. They primarily work to inhibit the growth of micro-organisms which can sometimes be very harmful to the body.

Tests and experience by some doctors, however, have shown that although antibiotics are good they can be harmful to the body as a result of prolonged use. For example, the use of the antibiotic streptomycin over an extended period of time can cause eventual deafness. Another observation in some cases is that when antibiotics are administered wrongly, they can destroy useful as well as harmful bacteria.

Dr Staffan Janson, pediatrician and Director of the Institute of Child Health and Development, stresses the importance of refraining from taking antibiotics unless it was absolutely necessary. In his observation, most infections are usually caused by viruses and normally go away after a few days with plenty of rest and the use of other home remedies. Dr Janson, in his short stay in Jordan, has come across several cases where children with bacterial infections did not respond to treatment after being treated with antibiotics.



Antibiotics can be harmful after a prolonged use

which would normally be effective. Their bodies, upon examination, were found to have bacteria resistant to a broad spectrum of antibiotics; this was causing the treatment to be ineffective. Dr Janson attributed this primarily to the abuse of antibiotics during the period preceding the illness.

Dr Najwa Khuri-Bulos, also a pediatrician, said that even though there are difficult cases where children are bacteria resistant to a broad spectrum of antibiotics, the suitable antibiotics can be found by using what is called a Sensitivity Test. This test involves taking a culture or specimen from the infected area and sending it to the laboratory. At the laboratory, the culture is tested with several types of antibiotics in order to determine antibiotic can be used to treat the patient's infection. This test does not only save a lot of money for the patient, but also allows doctors to prescribe the correct antibiotic needed and prevents patients from shopping around trying to find some antibiotic that will work.

Dr Khuri-Bulos stated that in the past, doctors generally administered for example, ampicillin to treat bacteria ear infections. Today, however, the improvement quota has gone from almost 100 per cent to about 50 per cent success. Such figures make carrying

out the Sensitivity Test all the more important for individual patients. She has also observed that there is a relatively high frequency of bacterial resistance which occurs when trying to treat patients with throat and ear infections. This is true simply because these infections occur so often and cannot be attributed simply to antibiotic abuse.

A firm believer in the use of home remedies before antibiotics, is a Jordanian mother of three, Mrs. Amia Gawdat Khitan. While bringing up her boys, she observed that sometimes simple herbs and spices used appropriately usually do the trick. Mrs. Khitan uses, for example, anise for coughs and sumac for diarrhoea. As a mother she says sometimes other mothers have the tendency to "swop" names of antibiotics among themselves if their children are ill and says this habit she feels has contributed to the misuse of antibiotics.

Dr H. Halazon, also a pediatrician, feels that he does have a moral obligation to educate mothers about the proper use of antibiotics. He would like to call on other physicians to use judgement and think of their patients before encouraging them to use antibiotics. After all, not all things that are good are always good for us.

Film stars and politics

Continued from page 24

refuge in a great party for such trivial hassles.

Asha Sachdev, who made her name in 'Buntyad', a soap opera, believes she is the reincarnation of Hollywood sex goddess Marilyn Monroe. A Muslim by birth and adopted by a Hindu father, she says she is not a feminist in the popularly understood sense of the word. "I would never allow my man to come inside the kitchen," she told a Bombay weekly. "We cannot be Europeans. But if it is to fight evils like dowry, I am for it." "I have certain views on family planning. We do not need many children in this country. I am all for strict family planning. My boyfriend and I planned to have one child and adopt one. But he died in 1980, and it did not happen."

Prem Nazir, who has acted in about 600 Malayalam (the language of Kerala) films — a

record for any Indian actor — had been dithering for a long time on whether to enter politics. The ageing movie hero is unlikely to be a big attraction in the politically highly-motivated and literate state of Kerala, but he is considered a useful fund-raiser who can mobilize thousands of his fellow Muslims working in the Gulf. When Kerala and West Bengal went to the polls in March, Gandhi took his movie stars on the campaign trail. But the stardust and glamour did not pay dividends; the party lost in both states.

Opposition parties have not taken kindly to the wooing of movie stars. A spokesman for the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party said, "If film stars want to join politics there can be no objection. But if this is a deliberate, well-constructed strategy, it is not the right way of building a party." The stars live in unreal lives; they work in unreal

films; so why do they want to make politics unreal as well? asked Lok Dal leader N. Bahuguna, who lost the Allahabad election to Bachchan.

Jalpal Reddy, general secretary of the Janatha Party which ruled India from 1977 to 1980, was more critical. "So far their contribution to parliamentary debate has been next to nothing. They merely use their glamour to sit pretty." But, he said, "if a pilot can become prime minister, so can a film star." Referring to Rajiv Gandhi's former profession. Even some Congress (I) leaders do not favour star politicians.

Said MP Kalpana Devi, "The trend should be discouraged. Celebrities do not have any commitment to the people. Politics is definitely not a drama, comedy or farce."

KSR Menon is a senior journalist with the Press Trust of India.

STAR FEATURES

Peter Ustinov: 'A monument to versatility'

Stopping over to complete a project in Amman last week was British actor, producer and director, Peter Ustinov. The Star's Vanessa Batrouni, in an interview with Mr Ustinov, compiled the following article:

By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to The Star

PETER USTINOV, actor, author, designer, director, film star and playwright, describes himself as an elderly gundog whose nose starts twitching at the whiff of any new exciting aroma after which he is soon off in pursuit.

A monument to versatility, Mr Ustinov, the fruit of a colourful family tree whose branches have grown globally is both genetically and artistically equipped to respond to the call of the insatiable gaudetic.

Born in Britain but as he quips, "grew up in Leningrad," Mr Ustinov can boast of far flung great grandparents from Saratov, Asia to Addis Ababa in Ethiopia and several others sprinkled over Europe.

His father was a German national raised in Jaffa, Palestine where his father built a large house, now the Park Hotel and another the youngest of a large family of a St. Petersburg architect. His meeting needed, as he writes in his autobiography, "I was Me," the precipitate action of a Serbian student in Sarajevo, the mere rattling of the Austro-Hun-

garian war party, the limitless ambitions of the Kaiser, the French desire for revenge, the immense speed of the Russian mobilization, the war at sea, in the air, on land, gas revolution, humiliation and conquest to bring them together."

Their union sealed a genetic melange — a spicy genealogy Mr Ustinov holds both in awe and fascination speaking playfully of Argentinian and Canadian uncles and a Palestinian aunt known affectionately in the family as "la femme fatale."

One could attribute his extraordinary diverse talents to his position as an only child at the end of a very long line — a sort of genetic collecting house where the talents of generations have pooled themselves; and undoubtedly his great empathy for Russia on which he has just completed an historical documentary for BBC 2 which will be shown in September and his affection for Jordan and Palestine spring from inherited race memories.

Recently, Mr Ustinov made a stopover of three days and three nights in Jordan to complete a project that has been two years in the making.

'Peter Ustinov's People' is one of Mr Ustinov's many current projects which he fits in between filming, writing and directing. Produced by an independent Irish company, Sheamus Smith Productions, in which Mr Ustinov has a partnership, 'Peter Ustinov's People' aims at "showing the human side of interesting and important statesmen known generally only for their speech making."

Mr Ustinov attempts to reveal the warmth of remote personalities not through a journalistic interview but through a personal dialogue and conversation. The first in the series was on Indira Gandhi which was never finished owing to her untimely death (the film crew were in the garden at the time of her assassination) but was later continued as a profile on Rajiv Gandhi.

The second in the series was a profile on ex-British Prime Minister Edward Heath who Mr Ustinov describes as a very "touching and human character who lost the leadership of the conservative party because he showed compassion."

The third in the series (the progress will be sold as a package of three) is a profile of His Majesty King Hussein which has taken two and a half years to achieve. As these films have to survive a long shelf life they concentrate on the



Peter Ustinov, pictured during his stay in Amman

Continued on page 8

History through the coin age

Sawsan Musallam
Special to The Star

THE COIN was once a miniature newspaper passing through many hands. It was a political broadcast a bulletin. Along with the great ancient monuments, it was one of the few ancient mass media. These were the words, through which a picture exhibition of coins circulated in Jordan across 25 years, introduced itself to the Jordanian public.

The five-day exhibition which was held by the History and Numismatics Society at the University of Jordan towards the end of April, contained 300 pictures of the various types of coins in Jordan, some of which dated back as far as 500 B.C.

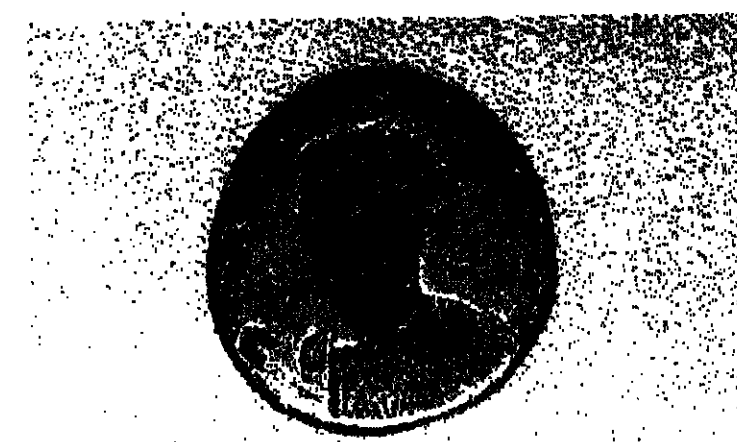
It covered all the major historical periods of the area until the British mandate. The period of the Ottoman Turks was the only one excluded.

The pictures on display were the outcome of a personal effort by Dr Nayef Gousseous, a dental surgeon, numismatist and a member of the American Numismatic Society. Assisted only by Mr Kalef Hameen, Supervisor of Public Museums in Jordan, Dr Gousseous worked labouriously for 22 days to produce, classify and organize the pictures of coins which he took from his private collection.

"The coins of Jordan like those of any other country immortalize their heroes and great figures, and provide brief information on major events of history," Dr Gousseous said.

Since coins are the reflection of different civilizations and different cultures, the exhibition was of particular importance to the students of the departments of history and archaeology, and was of special interest to many other visitors.

The first group of the coins on show at the exhibition belonged to the Kingdom of Lydia mainly at the



A Roman coin with a mint error. The head of Emperor Probus depressed on the reverse

time of Krosisos (560-546 BC). This was the area where the earliest coins are believed to have been struck. Pictures under this group depict uniface coins with inscriptions lending information on one face only. These coins are very rare. A piece is estimated to be worth around £10,000. The pictures were of imitation coins, owned by Dr Gousseous.

After the uniface coins, the new Athenian coinage appeared in this area. The coins were unique in that they bore full designs on both faces. When the coins of Alexander III The Great were issued, new changes had occurred. Alexander III was the first monarch whose image was struck on the coins. One of the pictures on display showed his head covered with lion skin. He had made himself look like Hercules, his patron god.

The second group of pictures on show depicts Phoenician coinage, among which were the Tyrian coins. There were pictures of the most common type among them, the tetradrachms, sometimes called shekels. These were issued during the first centuries BC and during the 2nd-3rd AD and were common in 263-265 AD and were common in the Holy Land at the time of Jesus' ministry. They are also said to

be the coins referred to as "the thirty pieces of silver."

The third group of pictures on display were the coinage of the Nabataean.

In those days, it was common place to have portraits of women on the coins. One picture at the exhibition showed a coin with the portrait of Arta IV, King of the Nabataeans. 9 BC - 40 AD struck on the obverse and the portrait of Huldai, Queen of the Nabataeans on the reverse. Another picture showed the Laureate bust of Marcus II — King of the Nabataeans with hair hanging down to the nape of his neck on the obverse while it showed the veiled bust of Zenobia, his sister and queen of the Nabataeans on the reverse. His sister was, at the same time, his wife.

Pictures of the Roman coins were displayed under the fourth group. These included coins of the Roman Republic and the Roman Empire. A very interesting picture of a coin was the Trajan, the Arab Adquise dating back to 106 AD.

Under this group also were coins of the Imperial Ladies of Rome. They depict wives, daughters, mothers and even grandmoth-



Coin dated back to 271-272 AD.

ers of ruling emperors.

One period which had a share among the groups showed pictures of coins of the Decapolis and Provincia Arabia. It showed coins of 18 city states like Abila, Jerash, Philadelphia, Rabbath Moba, Petra, Esbus and Damascus.

After this group came the coins of Palestine during the Roman Period. There were pictures of coins from Gaza, Neapolis, Aella Capitolina (Jerusalem), Sepphoris, Caesarea, Tiberias and Gaba.

The coins following this period were marked by Arab influence and thus entered a new phase. The circulating Byzantine coins were used by the Arabs with some modifications. The Arabs did imitations of the Byzantine prototype Justin II and Sophia. The Emperor's name was replaced on the obverse by the word "Soythopolis" (Baisan). The reverse retained its old mint.

Following this phase was a transitional stage where mixture of Arab and Byzantine coins were issued. The Arabs adopted the Sassanian coinage and added to it the word "Bismilla." Thus arabic-

ization started.

The next step was to abolish the foreign language from coins. Caliph Abdel Malek Ben Marwan started reforming all Arab financial organs of the State. What he did was to introduce coinage to Islamic culture.

In the 7th century AD, the post-reform Ommeyyad coins came into being. The Ommeyyad copper coins were struck with a religious formula and with mint representations of human beings and other living beings.

After that came the Abbasid coinage. Al-Saffah was the first Caliph who struck Abbasid coins in Kufa and in Amman. Included in the exhibition, were pictures of coins of the Ayyubid Dynasty, the Mamelukes (the Slave Kings), the Crusaders, the Arab Revolution and Modern Palestine under the British Mandate.

Some very interesting pictures at the exhibition were of coins with mint errors. A Roman coin with the head of Emperor Probus depressed rather than in relief is one example.

Handwritten text in Arabic script, likely a signature or note.

Jordanian feature film nears completion



Director Najdat Anzour and David Thompson, the character of Lieutenant Clifton, on location at Wadi Rum.

By Vanita Maudsley
Special to The Star

JORDAN TELEVISION viewers will shortly be able to see a remarkable and important new film called "Plonic on the Sands". It is remarkable in that it is a film of great beauty and subtlety; and it is important because it is Jordan's first feature film made in this country to be marketed abroad.

"Plonic on the Sands" is very much the brainchild of its director Najdat Anzour, a film director with the Jordanian film company Arab Telemedia. A Crossian who grew up in Syria — where his father was a distinguished film director, Najdat conceived the original idea for the film, and has spent much of the past year in making preparations for it. Not an easy task, since the whole project had to be undertaken in his rare moments, free of other work.

The film is set in 1935, at the time of the British Mandate in Trans-Jordan and it tells the story of Lieutenant Stephen Clifton who becomes lost and wounded in the desert while searching for a be-

douin bandit, Fahaad. The bedouin tends his wound and saves his life and respect and friendship develops between the two of them.

Lieutenant Clifton is played by David Thompson who has played many parts with the Royal Theatre Club and recently with The Amman Players, at the Royal Cultural Centre. Fahaad is played by Mohammed Abadi, well known to Jordan Television on viewers.

The film is by no means just another story set in the desert. Najdat Anzour has carefully avoided stereotypes; both Arabs and English are shown with their good and bad points. The photography is stunning in its capturing of the moods and atmosphere of the desert, and of bedouin life; yet no such obvious symbol as a bedouin tent is used.

Instead he uses hawk at frequent points throughout the film and the bird gathers a subtle, elusive symbolism as the film develops. The remarkable cameraman, Hussein Dabbas has translated Anzour's ideas into visual terms, and the long partnership has given the film great visual authority.

Most of the film was shot in Wadi Rum, many of the locations being the very ones used in "Lawrence of Arabia".

The music links the Eastern and Western elements in the film, and also cleverly remind us that the whole film is a flashback from the present day, recalled by Stephen Clifton as an old man. Wael Abu Nwar composed the music specially for the film.

Filming was, naturally, not without its problems. Vehicles frequently got stuck in the sand; a one-minute sequence took the best part of a day to film because the specially-made period army jeep got camera-shy and refused to work — as soon as one was got going, another broke down; horses bolted; and the special effects man, Mohammed Bandoura, ("Mr Ketchup"), was injured when, as a soldier covered in blazing petrol, he produced more flames than he intended and turned into a human torch.

Nevertheless, all the filming was completed in fourteen days of shooting, a remarkable feat considering the complexity of some of the scenes, particularly an ambush, and a spectacular explosion.

Now the editing is in its final stages, prior to the film's being entered for the Television Film Festival in Tunisia and Venice. Hopes are high that, at these international market-places, a number of countries worldwide will show interest in it. Since much of the narrative is told visually and the dialogue, in both Arabic and English, (and subtitled accordingly), is minimal, it is ideally suited to a world-wide market. Already Qatar has bought it, and negotiations have started with Britain's Channel 4 to screen it.

If the film achieves its hoped-for success, the credit will be largely Najdat Anzour's, since the entire project has been so much his own. He devoted team supported him loyally throughout and he won their admiration for his single-minded determination to achieve his goal.

hallmark of his characterizations and writing. "Laughter," he says, is a therapeutic sound and the only activity that differentiates us from animals.

But he doesn't confine himself only to laughter making. A new novel he is writing looks at the problems of new nations seen through the eyes of an old schoolmaster who becomes bewildered by the cruel political activities of boys he once taught. The book was inspired by Island of Granada, an island which he knows well and which he believes was robbed of its childhood by an adolescent itself not yet come of age.

In a world consisting of countries at different stages of development he places great emphasis on the importance of literacy and education and finds it lamentable that teachers are forced to strike for better pay/conditions in the industrialized democracies of the West.

Having just completed a film in Mexico, "Murder in Three Acts" (again by Agatha Christie) and a two-hour film on China for Unicef as well as a six-hour documentary on Russian history for the BBC, one wonders how Peter Ustinov can find time to write as well as spend time with his third wife, Irene, to whom he is devoted but it seems the energy of the 65-year-old Peter Ustinov, the old quondam, is not abated and that the world is still full of new and exciting subjects worth chasing.

Orfei's International Circus

His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah last night patronized the opening of the Orfei International Circus near the 7th circle.

The circus is hosted by the Al Faisali Sports, Cultural and Social Club.



Reem Yasin's
Cinema Corner

'The Flamingo Kid' A bird of a different feather

"WHY SHOULDN'T kids have art films too?" questioned renowned film director Francis Ford Coppola who made some outstanding films for, and about adolescents ("The Outsiders" is one example of a sensitive and most aesthetically film about young social outcasts). Obviously most young film goers neither expect nor particularly relish films of quality or depth.

The greatest proof of this sorrowful assumption is the immense popularity of certain mindless and inept productions that have no claim to the art of cinema except in their being "motion pictures"... Most contemporary teen age films range from the excessively violent to the overly sexual or idiotically inane farces (like all the Police Academies and Porkys). With such poor frames of reference — ordinary, old fashioned films stand out as being particularly substantial or noteworthy.

"The Flamingo Kid" comes under this last category, with qualities that render it quite watchable. Teen age idol Matt Dillon (who also starred in Coppola's "The Outsiders") plays the title role. As Jeffrey Willis, he refuses his plumber father's offer of a dull summer job as an office messenger in an engineering firm, a sort of preparatory step his father wants him to take towards his future career as a college graduate. The father's dream is to have educated children.

But Jeffrey has other plans for his life. When he is offered a job to work as a cabana boy in the El Flamingo glitzy club, he seizes the chance with zest in search of fast bucks and a more glamorous life style (to contrast with the rather poor background in which he was brought up). He is seduced to follow his dream of upward mobility by Mr Brody (Richard Crenna) owner of the club, who believes that "money is the name of the game".

Eventually, Jeffrey realizes the falsehood and insubstantiality of the nouveau-riche lifestyle and goes back to a forgiving father (Hector Elizondo). But though the film is basically an old fashioned morality tale, yet it is quite appealingly presented.

Centering as it does on a single protagonist, Dillon brings unpretentious charm to the role unlike many teen age idols who usually revel in their own narcissism (Travis is one nauseatingly striking example). He is ably supported by two competing father figures in his life (Elizondo and Crenna) whose warmth and depth give the film its human core.

'Ishtar' an insult to Muslim Arab culture

ON FRIDAY, 8 May, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (AADC) sent a letter to every major film critic in the United States protesting ethnic and religious slurs contained in the soon to be released motion picture "Ishtar".

The film was released nationwide by Columbia Pictures on Friday, 16 May. "Ishtar" was written and directed by Elaine May and stars Dustin Hoffman, Isabelle Adjani and Warren Beatty, who also produced the film.

In a telephone conversation late Friday with Ed Russell, Columbia Pictures Senior Vice President/Production in Los Angeles, AADC Director of Public Relations Faris Bouhafa strongly objected to the closing song entitled "I look to Mecca" in which Beatty and Hoffman sing about meeting a girl under a tree in Mecca.

AADC stressed that this mockery and trivialization of the pilgrimage to Mecca was an affront to every Muslim; and that the release of such a film during the holy month of Ramadan, simply added to the insult.

This letter to film critics also objected to Isabelle Adjani's re-

ference to her world, presenting Arab, as being "ancient and dusty" — a description that was seemingly in sharp contrast with the generous hospitality and goodwill shown the film crew on cast by their Moroccan hosts.

AADC further deplored the fact that "actors such as Hoffman, Beatty and Dustin Hoffman, who of whom have well deserved reputations for social and civil responsibility, should have involved themselves in a project which perpetuates ethnic prejudice."

It is the contention of AADC that the negative content about Arab culture and the insulting references to one of the most sacred traditions call for a public boycott from those responsible for production and distribution of the film.

In the coming week AADC is alerting the Islamic community in the United States. And prominent officials and the American public to its concerns. It is hoped that film critics throughout the world will address the issue of stereotyping of Arabs and Muslims when they review the film.

27 MAY 1987

Patirical fun in RTC version of 'The Threepenny Opera'

MAN (STAR) — The Royal Theatre Company's latest production of Bertolt Brecht's well-known play "The Threepenny Opera" is to be staged at the Royal Cultural Centre over the Eid.

Produced by Vanessa Batrouni, the play is a satire, attacking social conditions in pre-World War II Germany.

The socio-political message of the play no longer applies to Europe, it is the opera which becomes more relevant to our audiences. "First person" takes on a anti-hero, a character who is well known to the audience. The play is a satire, attacking social conditions in pre-World War II Germany.

27 MAY 1987

Samia Kabariti Photo by Vanita Maudsley

Samia Kabariti is the first Jordanian to qualify as a SCUBA diver at the new Aqaba Diving Centre. She had always wanted to

deal with problems. For example, the divers must be able to put on all their equipment while actually under water, must also know how to blow water out of their mask should it flood and must learn how to share the air of another diver just in case the equipment should fail. After that the training moved to the sea as well.

Samia carried out six open sea dives which included the wreck of a ship near the diving centre and a dive 22 metres down at the North Gardens deep reef. Since then she has also dived at an island off the Egyptian coast.

Now that she has started Samia hopes to continue diving in Britain where she is at present studying Hotel Management. She has another rather unusual hobby, parachuting, which indicates that this girl is uncommonly adventurous.

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Ex-congressman speaks despite danger

By John Dirlirk

Bags were searched and security was tight when Former US Congressman Paul Findley addressed a packed auditorium at Concordia University on 30 January.

Findley, a Republican congressman for 22 years, has had his share of enemies since he began questioning what he calls "American blind support of Israel."

He eventually lost his bid for reelection in 1982 when targeted for defeat by the powerful American-Israeli Political Action Committee (AIPAC). Full page ads denouncing him as an "enemy of Israel" and thousands of dollars pouring in from across the United States for his opponent ensured that Israel's support on Capitol Hill remain unchanged.

"There is no debate worthy of the world in the Congress of the United States about US policy in the Middle East," he said. "The only question ever considered is what Israel wants."

Findley has described his colleagues as "trained poodles" when Middle East issues are concerned.

The US Congress, he said, engages "in the painful process of trying to cut back the federal deficit by cutting back on aid to education, aid to farmers, aid to veterans, aid to small business... they even vote to cut military expenditures for the US. But at the same time, they wave through without a dissenting vote... \$3 billion in aid to the state of Israel."

Findley, who documented his experiences on Capitol Hill in the book "They Dare to Speak Out: People and Institutions confront Israel's lobby," said that criticism of Israel was stifled by the "reckless charge of anti-Semitism."



Ex-congressman Paul Findley in Montreal

According to the lecturer, Americans have allowed Israel's lobby to "redefine the term anti-Semitism: Instead of its classical form meaning hostility towards an entire race or nationality, it is now equated with criticism of the policies of the government of Israel."

Findley also insisted that American interests were being endangered by the presence of a powerful lobby group whose loyalties are to a country other than the US.

Referring to the Irangate affair that has shaken the Reagan administration, the former Congressman stressed Israel's role, saying that the Irangate scandal served only the interests of Israel. "It has driven an enormous wedge be-

tween the US and the Arab world," he said.

During the question period, a member of the audience who described herself as a former Israeli and American, challenged Findley's contention that Americans were simply the innocent victims of a well organized Israeli lobby.

"I am disturbed by the kind of blame you attribute to the Israeli lobby in proportion to the blame you attribute to the US government," she said. "Israel's lobby could not be such a powerful lobby in a very powerful country such as the US unless there were vested interests in that country that wanted it that way... Israel is a very convenient agent of American interests in the Middle East. To come here and to speak of the Israeli lobby as the only culprit, angers me as a Jew who is pro-Palestinian but also as an American who is furious over what is going on in the countries of the world where there is so much misfortune because of American foreign policy."

Findley responded by saying that he blamed not only Israel's lobby, but also the US "for letting this lobby grow and attain a stronghold over our institutions to such an extent that our government is no longer able to pursue its own national interests."

After the lecture, another member of the audience commented that Findley's refusal to attribute blame on the US for its Middle East policy was "exactly what one would expect from a Republican from Illinois."

Findley's speech was sponsored by a coalition of Montreal Arab community groups, at the invitation of the General Union of Palestinian Students. Arab World Review

The paper points out that Arab students according to the new tuition fees law will have to pay US \$600 more than Israeli students. This step, comments the paper, constitutes a stark example of Israel's racist and separatist policies which are only emulated and practised by the South African apartheid regime.

There is no doubt that such cruel and unjust decisions will have negative bearing on the peace process in the region. The Labour ministers, who incessantly express a strong desire for peace, should work hard to cancel and nullify the decision. In case they fail to do so, they must immediately break their coalition and withdraw from this fascist and racist government, says Haaretz.

Hadashot writes: Amid the big furor made on the international peace conference issue, Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger called for the postponement of the conference until after the next US presidential elections in 1988, because holding the conference before elections will not be in favour of Israel.

By the end of 1973, adds the paper, when Kissinger was in office, Geneva International peace conference was convened and attended by foreign ministers from Jordan, Israel, Egypt, and the United States. The conference ended exactly as it had started: no avail.

The paper adds that former US presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter weren't opposed to the idea of an international peace conference to be attended by all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict except the PLO. For this reason, Kissinger set up his difficult conditions in 1975 stressing the

necessity of the PLO's approval of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, the recognition of Israel, and the relinquishing of armed struggle, as necessary requirements for its participation in peace talks.

Kotrit Rashit says that in a press conference arranged by the Israeli army few days ago, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin touched upon the strategic depth and political gains Israel acquired in the 1967 war. He also tried to justify Israel's occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and then referred to Israel's desire and willingness to peace talks.

Rabin's statements, comments the paper, clearly reflect the Israeli government's stance concerning the Arab occupied territories which demonstrate Israel's desire and intention to retain the occupied territories despite its recurrent calls to negotiate a peaceful settlement with Arab countries.

Al Quds Arabic paper says that the continuation of Israeli occupation of the Arab territories doesn't necessarily mean hampering all efforts to speed up the peace process.

The differences in the Arab world has nothing to do with the occupied territories issue because Arab leaders call for the application of the so called principle "peace in exchange for land". The differences between Arab leaders, comments the paper, relate to the nature of Palestinians' participation in peace talks, their national legitimate rights foremost of which is the right to self-determination.

As for Israel leaders, they all insist on wresting Arab concessions that include the Palestinians' legitimate rights as well as the occupied territories.



Rabin, Peres and Shamir at Lyd airport prior to Peres' departure to Washington

US ambassador criticizes Israeli measures

Haaretz newspaper mentioned that the American Ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering sharply criticized Israel's policies in the occupied territories. He stated that his country opposes measures of banishment and deportation, sealing and demolishing of houses, and mass detention campaigns.

The paper added that the ambassador asserted that the United States backs the idea of improving the living conditions of Arabs under occupation but said that this shouldn't supplant the peace process in the region.

Ma'rakh maintains popularity

A recent opinion poll made by Smith Institute showed that the Ma'rakh bloc maintained popularity despite the late political crisis the bloc has gone through. The poll showed that 41 per cent of Israelis back the Ma'rakh while the Likud party scored only a 3 per cent increase in popularity making a total percentage of 33.

French Foreign Minister to visit Israel

Al Hamishmar newspaper said that French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond will arrive in Israel next Sunday on a three-day visit responding to an invitation from his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres. The minister is to meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, President Haim Herzog and a Palestinian delegation from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the French consulate in Jerusalem.

Male inhabitants of Tul Karim barred from travelling

Israeli authorities barred the male inhabitants of Tul Karim from travelling across the bridge of the River Jordan for security reasons. Similar measures were imposed on the inhabitants of Nablus, Toubas, and Jineen.

Kurds

Continued from page 19

During the rule of Abdul Karim Qasim, who became in power after the military coup of 1958, the Kurds and their Kurdish Democratic Party enjoyed more freedom and supported his rule, until they submitted to him demands which he could not accept and thus they turned against him.

With the coming of the Ba'ath Party to power in 1963, the Government agreed to grant autonomy to the Kurds but it did not accept demands submitted by the Kurdish Democratic Party and the Barazanis, as those demands were likely to lead to the separation of the Kurdish provinces from Iraq. Consequently some of the Kurds under Barazani rebelled against the Iraqi Government. Iran under the late Shah and the CIA greatly supported the Kurds with money and arms, until an agreement was concluded in Algeria between the Shah of Iran and the Iraqi government in 1975 on the Shat El Arab problem and other matters, and whereby the Shah promised not to assist the Kurds.

On 10 March, 1970 an agreement was concluded which finally resolved the Kurdish problem in Iraq. In short, this Agreement provided for 'autonomy' for the Kurds within the Iraqi state; it recognized Kurdish nationalism and the Kurdish language. It provided for the Kurds participation in the Legislature and government commensurate to their number, development of the Kurdish language and culture, Kurds administration in regions where they form the majority, the development of their economy and implementation of the agrarian reform. The agreement provided also that the Iraqi constitution shall be amended to stipulate for the recognition of two nationalisms, Arab and Kurdish, that one of the vice-presidents shall be a Kurd, that the Kurdish regions shall be endowed with autonomous rule within the scope of the state and that regional laws shall be amended accordingly. No such autonomy, privileges or rights were ever accorded to the Kurds by either Turkey or Iran.

Unfortunately, after the conclusion of the agreement, differences arose between the Iraqi government and the Kurds (especially Barazani and the Kurdish Democratic Party) with regard to the implementation and interpretation of some of the terms of the agreement. The Kurds accused Iraq that its government had failed to properly implement the agreement while the latter accused the Kurds of aiming for a separate state (especially in Kirkouk). Skirmishes took place again between the Iraqi forces and the Kurds loyal to Barazani and the Kurdish Democratic Party. But at the end Barazani and his followers were forced to flee from Iraq in 1976 and Barazani himself went to the USA where he died.

THE JERUSALEM STAR

Finance, business & economy

Talking about gold — will the Arabs come to the market

NEW YORK — Gold is soaring again while the dollar is souring. The last time the ounce of gold reached the \$460 mark was last October. The reason, obviously, is the scarcity on the world market. Indeed, a record 62.4 million ounces flowed into the market in 1985, up 18 per cent from 53.8 million ounces in 1985. Speculators and investors, nonetheless, see gold as an alternative to devaluing bonds or risky stocks which have been reaching record highs for more than six months.

Big debts, large trade deficits, commodity prices, a perennially weaker dollar, US restrictions on Japanese imports, inflation deteriorating economies and American borrowing which adds upward of \$200 billion in foreign debt are all pushing gold higher. Gold shares have outperformed the Dow Jones averages in the last year. Recently, trading in gold issues and stocks hit record highs.

So far as it can be ascertained, the Arabs did not move on the gold market. Some of the international gold dealers with whom Arabs trade did not report any demand coming from the Arab world. It is possible, they say, that Arabs are buying gold in New York via Swiss banks. A "gold rush," however, would be in the offing from the

oil-rich countries. Gold has always been a favourite commodity in times of trouble.

Last year, for example, Saudi Arabia officially imported \$535 million worth of gold for jewelry, mostly from Bahrain, Switzerland and Italy. This precious metal was used notably by Jeddah's 43 jewelry workshops and 220 retail shops. Gold, purchased by investors and speculators, is normally stored in overseas vaults and rarely enters Saudi Arabia.

Gold reserves held by Arab central banks remain unchanged and there is no sign that these banks are about to sell the precious metal holdings in the near future, even if the price per ounce hits the \$500 mark.

Lebanon appears to be sitting on its 9.2 million-ounce reserves, which have a current value of nearly \$4.14 billion. If Lebanese proponents of a gold sale succeed in convincing the Beirut Government to dump half of those reserves and buy certificates of deposit with the proceeds, Lebanon would reap \$1.8 billion in interest annually.

But Lebanon is following the United States' example whose 264 million troy-ounce reserves have remained a sleeping beauty.

Three Middle Eastern countries, however, might be tempted to sell gold at a high price to replenish

badly-depleted hard-currency reserves. These countries could be warring Iraq and Iran, as well as Libya. They have been active in the gold market as early as 1979. In fact, during that year, Iraq withdrew 23 tonnes from Swiss storage facilities, followed by another dramatic 74.6 tonnes in the first seven months of 1980.

In turn, Iran removed 30 tonnes of gold in seven months in 1980 from London, and about 18 tonnes from Zurich. Libya brought back 3.7 tonnes of gold from London in the first 11 months of 1980, according to UK customs and Excise figures. A large portion of that gold has been resold in the world markets since then.

Out of an estimated total of 3,022,100,000 ounces of gold, Middle East central banks were reported to be holding some 33,120,000 ounces, according to figures released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in early 1985.

A 1985 survey by Salomon Brothers Inc. of New York showed that all members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) had gold reserves of 43.8 million ounces at the end of June 1984. Their market value at that time was \$16.3 billion; they are worth today \$19.71 billion. But those were June 1984's reserves... (Mid East report)

US finances Jordanian importers

JERUSALEM (Star) — The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has established a Commodity Import Program (CIP) to assist Jordan's public and private sectors. Under the innovative financing arrangement, manufactured goods and materials beneficial to Jordan's economic development can be imported under favourable terms by local companies.

Since the CIP was established in 1985, USAID has contributed \$5.8 million to create this financing facility. Over \$48 million in credit have already been made to more than 35 Jordanian firms by local banks for imports of goods. "We have been encouraged by the success of the CIP," said the assistance which it has provided to Jordanian entrepreneurs in their contributions to the industrial development of Jordan's economy," said Francis A. Donnelly, Director of USAID's Commodity Management Office in Amman. "The programme welcomes more applicants from the private sector to make use of this unique facility," he added.

How does CIP operate? Under the private sector portion of the programme, the USAID pays US exporters in dollars for goods exported to Jordan for CIP financing. The Jordanian importer then pays the equivalent amount in dinars into a special account at the Central Bank of Jordan, ordinarily over a period of three to five years at interest rates which average 10 per cent. Funds in this special account are then used by the importer for development activities and projects agreed upon

by the government of Jordan and USAID.

Products eligible for financing under this programme include machinery and equipment, intermediate goods, raw materials, and spare parts. The programme does not finance consumer goods, luxury items, or products intended for re-export in essentially the same condition. Major US imports to Jordan under this programme have included draglines and other mining equipment, agricultural equipment, corn, tractors, telephone equipment, pumps, pharmaceuticals, computers, drilling equipment, tires, and spare parts for trucks and aircraft. Jordanian

importers and entrepreneurs interested in the CIP programme should contact their local bank or USAID on telephone number 604171, extension 441.

SABIC profits soar

RIYADH, (OPECNA) — The Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) netted profits of over \$54.8 million in 1986, up from \$32.2 million and \$31.9 million in 1985 and 1984 respectively, according to industry and electricity Minister Abdulaziz Al-Zamil.

ASCA president speaks in America

KUWAIT — President of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA) Taha Abu-Ghazaleh gave a speech on "The Development of the Profession in the Arab World" to the council on Accounting in New York. It was a presentation of the professional accounting organizations in the Arab countries, the accounting standards prevailing in the area and the goals and responsibilities of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants. The speech was one of a number given by Mr Abu-Ghazaleh during a visit to America from 29-30 April.

The ASCA President also delivered the official speech at the annual graduation banquet at Cani-

sus University in Buffalo — New York in which he talked about "The Accounting Standards and the Arab World" and the steps undertaken by the Arab Society of Certified Accountants to set the international accounting standards and its role in qualifying the Arab certified accountants.

His series of speeches came within the annual programme of the ASCA President which aims to inform public opinion in the developed countries about the accountancy profession in the Arab world with the aim of opening a dialogue with foreign institutions from which the accountancy profession in the Arab world can benefit.

• TENDER NO 18/87. Opening and paving of Lajoun road, Karak governorate. Tender documents are available at Karak Tenders Committee office for JD 15. Closing date: 3 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 19/87. Opening and paving of Al Khalidiyah Um Hamat road, Karak governorate. Tender documents are available at Karak Tenders Committee office for JD 15. Closing date: 3 June 1987.

• Supply OF 500 light units for Madaba Municipality. Tender documents are available at Madaba Municipality for JD 20. Closing date: 2 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 202/87. Supply of medicines for the public Supplies Directorate. Tender documents are available at the directorate for JD 50. Closing date: 12 July 1987.

• SUPPLY OF metal and plastic containers for Madaba Municipality. Tender documents are available at the municipality for JD 25. Closing date: 2 June 1987.

• SUPPLY AND installation of an automatic switchboard for Madaba Municipality. Tender documents are available at the Municipality for JD 10. Closing date: 2 June 1987.

• SUPPLY OF light units for Bila municipality Beni Kinaanah governorate. Tender documents are available at the municipality for JD 5. Closing date: 1 June 1987.

• CONSTRUCTION OF concrete walls for Al Mazar governorate. Tender documents are available at Irbid Works Directorate for JD 10. Closing date: 1 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 53/87. Supply of pillars and aluminium sheets for Greater Amman Municipality. Tender documents are available at the municipality for JD 5. Closing date: 29 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 54/87. Supply of heavy vehicles for Greater Amman Municipality. Tender documents are available at the municipality for JD 120. Closing date: 29 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 58/87. Clearance on the imports of the Jordan Electricity Authority in Aqaba port and Amman Customs Centre. Tender documents are available at the authority's offices — Jabel Amman — 7th Circle for JD 5. Closing date: 6 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 61/87. Supply of uniforms for the Jordan Electricity Authority. Tender documents are available at the authority for JD 5. Closing date: 6 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 2/87. Construction of a laboratory for Karak Works Directorate. Tender documents are available at Karak Works Directorate for JD 5. Closing date: 3 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 15/87. Improvement of Sal'uf-Um Jozeh road. Tender documents are available at Balqa' Tenders Directorate for JD 10. Closing date: 7 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 26/87. Improvement of Um Jozeh-Al Rimalmin road. Tender documents are available at Balqa' Tenders Directorate for JD 15. Closing date: 7 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 43/87. Construction of the Central Blood Bank new building at Al Bashir Hospital. Tender documents are available at the Government Tenders Directorate for JD 60. Closing date: 10 June 1987.

• TENDER NO 46/87. Supply of gas cylinders sheeted iron for the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Tender documents are available at the company for JD. 15. Closing date: 21 June 1987.

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Economic Adhocracy

By Jawad Anani



Jordan's 41 years of independence

JORDAN CELEBRATED forty one years of independence from the British mandate this week. In 1946, Jordan became a Kingdom, and the late King Abdullah became the first monarch.

Since that time Jordan has gone through thin and thick, sweet and bitter, without ever losing its grace or fortitude. We have endured three wars with Israel, the Suez campaign, two or three attempted coup d'etats, the assassination of the founder of the country, and the events of 1970. We have been boycotted, our borders closed, the West Bank slashed. We have been through droughts, poverty, threat of attack. We have been subjected to pressures to take positions in complete disharmony with our firm principles. Yet...

We have achieved one of the best records for stability in the region. Although Jordan is multivariate in terms of racial, and ethnic origins, it is a "one" society. Radicalism looks much more radical in a mainstream society like ours.

We have also demonstrated that a country endowed with tolerant and dedicated leadership, honest and hard-working citizens and a high level of education can overcome natural resource limitations. Mostly arid, Jordan has set itself on a development path that is an example in the world. Although we have suffered ups and downs and revealed high sensitivity to external fluctuations, yet we have always produced the right cushioning to withstand the adverse influences.

The future that lies ahead is also fraught with difficulties. The protracted wars and animosities in the Middle East pose a challenge to Jordan's welfare and security. The drying up of resources in exhaustive wars cannot be helpful to a peace-loving country like Jordan. Our ardent and ceaseless efforts to arrive at peace are genuine. They stem from our firm commitment to the cause and from the fact that in peace the best will be highly competitive.

The brave world that awaits this country is not going to be easy in the absence of peace. Yet, our past record shows beyond doubt that we shall survive and even thrive.

Turkey to be IDA donor

WASHINGTON — Turkey has announced that it will contribute \$10.8 million toward the eighth replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA-8), thus becoming the third country to move from being an IDA recipient to a donor. In previous years, Korea and Colombia also became donors after being IDA recipients. IDA is the World Bank's concessionary lending affiliate.

Turkey joins 32 other nations in pledging \$12.4 billion in contributions to IDA-8 for the three-year period beginning 1 July, 1987 and ending 30 June, 1990.

Turkey is the Bank's fifth largest borrower. Bank lending is aimed at supporting the country's medium-term objectives of restructuring the economy by placing greater reliance on market forces and adopting a more outward-oriented strategy.

Successful economic development policies implemented since 1980 have resulted in a substantial improvement of the country's main macroeconomic indicators.

By 1973 — when Turkey received its last IDA credit — 14 IDA-assisted projects had been approved, totaling about \$197 million.

So far, combined World Bank-IDA lending to Turkey amounts to almost \$7.5 billion for about 100 projects.

In addition, the International Finance Corporation, the Bank's affiliate that assists developing countries by promoting the growth of private sector, has so far committed about \$290 million for 25 investment programmes.

(WB news)

Felten & Guillaume boost holdings abroad

VIENNA — With the acquisition of a production plant in Spain the Austrian electrical equipment producer Felten & Guillaume (Schalter Felten) has added to its holdings abroad. In the East Asian area the firm has strengthened its position with participation in two companies, one in Australia, the other in Malaysia. In 1986 exports accounted for more than 50 per cent of production. Felten are active in 35 countries. (AEN)

Auction glut depresses world tea prices

By John Tanner
Special to The Star

LONDON — Tea prices have sunk with the leaves to the bottom of the cup just when market experts were predicting a rise.

A flood of low quality tea onto the influential London auction and import restrictions by Pakistan are deeply worrying African and Asian producers.

"Indian traders are sending their tea to the London auction to get 50 pence (82 cents) a kilo less than they would in India," claimed a director of one leading tea company.

"It's madness. They've really fouled up the market, and I don't know why."

Prices have been falling steadily for some time, although quality tea prices have fallen less steeply. Between March and April alone plain teas dropped 30 per cent in value, medium 20 per cent and quality teas were so rare prices were not quoted.

"The London auction has been flooded with plain quality tea which has pushed the average price much lower," said a spokesman for the giant Unilever company.

Since the beginning of the year medium tea has dropped from £1.40 (\$2.27) a kilo to £1.08 (\$1.72).

Normally at this time of year the readers of tea leaves expect prices to increase because of a shortage of quality tea. Also this year, while North Indian teas have tailed off, supplies of quality Kenyan teas are only just becoming available.

"Overseas producers seem to have sent their tea to London in the expectation that prices would rise," said Unilever, which owns the Brooke Bond and Lipton's tea companies.

"The problem is that too many producers have rushed to the auction at once."

By the time traders have gone through export procedures, shipped their chests halfway around the world and waited for the tasters to give their verdict, two months can elapse, so supplies do not always respond quickly to market signals.

Meanwhile, in Pakistan, the world's second largest importer, the government is concerned at the growth of imports from Kenya.

It has accused Unilever, which

has 85 per cent of the packet tea market, of discriminating against traditional suppliers.

In 1983 Kenya, where Unilever is the largest estate producer, supplied 18 per cent of Pakistan's tea and Bangladesh provided 24 per cent.

But by 1986 Kenya's share of the market had grown to 47 per cent, and the poorer quality Bangladesh tea was squeezed to only 8 per cent.

Unilever denies it is using its monopoly to favour higher-priced Kenyan teas, pointing out that packet tea is only half the Pakistan market.

"The Pakistani consumer is changing to good quality strong tea, which Kenya produces," said the company's spokesman.

Earlier this month, the Pakistani government said import licences for Kenyan tea would be restricted to 25 per cent of the country's consumption.

This is expected to have a depressing effect on the Mombasa auction, although demand for Kenyan teas generally remains strong.

James Finlay, which owns the African Highlands estates in Kenya, also has tea estates in Bangladesh.

"It could affect us quite badly, but Pakistan will presumably buy our tea from Bangladesh," said director Richard Muir at the company's headquarters in Scotland.

"Kenyan teas look very bright, taste good and are the same all the year round because the estates are close to the equator," he said.

Kenyan tea exports have trebled in the past 10 years and are planned to increase by another 50 per cent by 1990.

The biggest producers of black tea, India and Sri Lanka, have had greater difficulty in maintaining quality despite a determined campaign by the Indian Tea Board. Sri Lanka's exports have fallen and most Indian tea now is drunk locally.

Last year's Indian crop reached only 820 million kilos because of drought in the north and exports dropped to 205 million kilos. This year the industry is hoping for a crop of 700 million kilos, with exports of 220 million kilos.

"Prices should be higher because there is such a tremendous demand for tea in India," Muir

said. In recent years nearly half the world's tea has been drunk in the Third World, much of it in the tea-growing countries.

The tea-drinking British remain the world's biggest importers, but consumption is falling. Imports have dropped by a fifth in the past 10 years, partly because of the growing use of tea-bags, which means less tea per cup.

In 1983, in a bid to hold down prices inside India, the government banned exports of CTC (crushed, torn and curled) tea, which sent prices at the London auctions to more than £3 (\$4.50) a kilo. Since then tea prices worldwide have fallen to their present depressed levels.

In the longer term demand is likely to continue increasing at about 3 per cent a year, but supplies also are growing.

In the short term auction prices are expected to rise a little when the quality teas return and boost the average.

Exports of green tea from China doubled between 1970 and 1980 and have continued to increase as Beijing bids to increase its foreign exchange earnings. China now is the world's third largest tea exporter, after India and Sri Lanka.

From 11-15 May representatives of exporting countries are to meet in Rome to try to agree on market shares as a preliminary to negotiating an International Tea Agreement. But market analysts doubt they will succeed.

The producers have met under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) many times before and always disagreed.

Newer producers, notably Kenya, want a growing market share, while India and Sri Lanka want to maintain market dominance.

How the consumers — Britain, Pakistan and the United States in particular — would react if producers could ever reconcile their differences, is not clear. Britain and the United States are opposed to commodity price controls which interfere with the market trend.

The price trend in recent years has been firmly downward, but drought in a major producing area or another export restriction by India could set prices on an upward course.

Unilever, which in 1984 purchased Brooke Bond, is believed to enjoy 35 per cent of the world tea market and operates as a grower, broker and wholesaler. It is content to watch producing countries squabble among themselves.

Pakistan's concern has been growing trade imbalance with Kenya. Exports to Kenya in 1985 amounted to only \$5 million, compared with imports of \$75 million. But Pakistan runs favourable trade balances with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Whether the Pakistani government will be able to thwart the public taste for preference has not been influenced by the companies. The time will tell.

But Indian traders are unlikely to send their teas to London with such enthusiasm.

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WHITHER COMMUNISM?

A Modern Manifesto

By SILVIU BRUCAN
in New York, USA

Contrary to Marxist expectations, the end of the century will witness much deeper social changes in the East than in the West. This process already has begun in Hungary, China and now in the Soviet Union. It will eventually expand—not without conflict and hurdles—throughout the East. Although change will have to start from the economic end, it must necessarily involve social relations and ultimately the political system, including the Communist Party itself. Party Secretary-General Mikhail Gorbachev is aware of this. The reason only total change will do is simple: the communist system, as molded by Stalin and stubbornly maintained over half a century, cannot assimilate, except in the military, the scientific-technological revolution that has touched

(continued)



Inside: It's time to end grain politics and find a way to feed world's hungry.

WHITHER COMMUNISM?

A modern manifesto

(continued)

all spheres of life more deeply than the social and national revolutions of our time.

This is what has made all the difference in the East-West competition. Unless socialist societies adapt their system to the requirements of that revolution, socialism will not be equipped to enter the 21st century through the front door.

What drives Gorbachev is neither popular discontent and a disastrous economic crisis, nor the desire to provide more food and consumer goods, but the strategic realization that the system is incapable of withstanding the challenge coming from a computerized and informational Western capitalism. This will mean the ideological death of the system because the basic creed that keeps that type of society going is the march into the future.

To attain its objective, the Soviet Union will have to travel a long way, at least 15 to 20 years. In China, it will take 50 years or so. The difference in time may explain the origin of their different approach to reform.

China is lagging in terms of historical development, not to mention its distinct political and cultural traditions. Therefore, in China, economic change has been sweeping and radical and began with the unleashing of market forces in agriculture.

This suggests a more venturesome strategy, a sort of steeplechase marked by rapid advances and sudden setbacks.

The demotion of the party leader, Hu Yaobang, shows that the hardliners have staged a political comeback and once again the writers and professors are the first to be fired at or simply fired.

Unlike in China, in the Soviet Union is cautious and gradual, with every major decision, taken only after experimenting on a local basis. The "industrial experiment" involving partial self management of factories was initiated in 1984 in five key industries; extended in 1986 to 50 percent of industry and in 1987 throughout all industry.

Whatever the difference, the leadership in both countries publicly has acknowledged that economic reform cannot advance successfully if democratization and political changes do not follow suit.

Here is the Achilles heel: political reform in the East ultimately boils down to the democratization of the Communist Party, an idea the conservative hardliners stubbornly resist.

But Gorbachev can afford to argue for more democracy while relying on the world's most numerous detachment of

Silviu Brucan, an economist and former Romanian ambassador to the United States, is a member of the Romanian Communist Party.

scientists and engineers. Deng Xiaoping fears that the Chinese population at large is not sufficiently educated to withstand Western ideological influence.

Commentators have drawn a parallel between Gorbachev and Nikita Khrushchev's moves for change and eventual defeat.

Khrushchev denounced Stalin's horrible crimes and took a series of measures to eliminate his repressive policies, trying to replace them with a modest economic decentralization and material incentives to stimulate production.

But he never developed a scheme for economic reform of the sort taking shape under Gorbachev nor did he touch the highly centralized political system.

Conversely, Gorbachev advocates the democratization of the system to an extent and degree without precedent in communist history.

Not only does he propose to allow

citizens to nominate several candidates in elections, a measure already practiced in Hungary, he suggests that even in the Communist Party, secretaries of local organizations up to the Central Committee in the union republics be elected by secret ballot with an unlimited number of candidates in the voting list.

This is a significant shift that actually introduces the principle of accountability of Communist Party leaders to party members, making the election of leaders dependent on the way their performances and prestige are evaluated below by party members. This is a far cry from the present system in which both the nomination and the appreciation of such leaders' performance are decided by the superior party organs.

It is this top-to-bottom selection of local leaders that has generated bureaucratization toward the top leadership in the communist parties.

In addition, Gorbachev pointed out,

"The Politburo's opinion is that further democratization should also apply to the formulation of the central leading bodies of the party," meaning the Politburo and the Secretariat.

These are proposals, but even their theoretical formulation is of extraordinary importance. The evidence that this time Gorbachev has touched a sensitive nerve of the political system is the lack of publicity for his January speech throughout Eastern Europe.

Briefly, the system must come to terms with computers, information technology and planetary communication. The Tokyo Institute for the Information Society points out that not even representative democracy is adequate; participatory democracy would be required. That means that democratization of political structure in the East is no less important than modernizing and restructuring the economy. This is Gorbachev's message for the East.

Kremlin can choose China model

Bolster economy and forget conquest

Soviet foreign policy always has been marked by the struggle for priority between catching up economically with capitalism and the need to build political-military power to withstand challenges from a hostile international environment.

The Kremlin is confronted here with the model of the alternative communist strategy advocated by China. During the Brezhnev era, Soviet strategy tilted toward political-military power.

Official documents measured the international success of socialism in terms of territorial expansion with new nations going socialist rather than of economic performance vis-à-vis the West.

The strategy coincided with the neglect of the Soviet economy and was reflected in such cases as Vietnam and Ethiopia, which engaged in large-scale military operations with Soviet support while their economy fell into shambles. The same strategy led to the invasion of Afghanistan.

Will the current harsh criticism of Brezhnev's neglect of the economy lead to the logical conclusion of a change in Soviet strategic priority?

China has made the most spectacular turnabout from military buildup to drive for economic modernization. The priority given economic success and popular well-being is best reflected in Deng Xiaoping's "two systems, one state" strategy toward Hong Kong and Taiwan.

This strategy suggests that while China will modernize its socialist economy in 50 years or so, Hong Kong and Taiwan will retain their capitalist system. Yet all three will belong to one



Time for change is Mikhail Gorbachev's message in his agenda to keep pace with Reagan's United States.

state—China.

Such a strategy proceeds from the recognition that the territorial expansion of socialism has reached a point where it must stop for a while and consolidate its position through building a modern economic system competitive with the challenge of the West.

Failure to do this will allow capitalism to roll back the political advances of socialism.

If urban reforms produce the same results in China as

rural ones, the new strategy is bound to acquire a tremendous following, particularly in the Third World.

The Kremlin is confronted with a dramatic choice: To cling to old ways and rely on military power as its main asset or proceed with a radical change in domestic and global strategy.

The issue of leadership in the socialist world virtually is at stake in that choice.

—By Silviu Brucan

Capitalist Hong Kong part of China's future

Blueprint offers space for two systems

BY RUI YUANRU
in Beijing, China

THE COMMUNIST FUTURE the Chinese have outlined for the metropolis of Hong Kong contains enough space for both socialist and capitalist doctrine with the hope that neither will impinge on the other.

For China, the blueprint goes far beyond the market forces unleashed in the economy since 1979. It is designed not only to survive the current mainland struggle against bourgeois liberalization but to keep open the way for the return of Taiwan to what could be an intriguing socialist China Inc. that operates subsidiaries separately, practicing free market capitalism and a planned economy.

"The struggle against bourgeois liberalization does not affect Hong Kong at all," says Ji Pengfei, director of the Hong Kong and Macao affairs office under the state council.

He referred to fears that the struggle over Marxist orthodoxy and economic and political liberalization would affect the Sino-British joint declaration on Hong Kong, under which that most capitalist of cities would function under Beijing's rule after 1997.

"Such fears are not called for," he said. "According to the principle of 'one country, two systems,' the mainland is carrying out socialism, and Hong Kong, capitalism."

"The mainland must persist in the four cardinal principles while Hong Kong continues to operate according to the system of capitalism."

Deng Xiaoping has explicitly stated: "One country, two systems" is a policy that has been adopted by the National People's Congress. It is law."

Lu Ping, deputy secretary-general of the committee drafting the basic law for 1997 Hong Kong, said in February that "one country, two systems" is "by no means an expedient measure, but a strategic state policy."

The Chinese leaders raised the "one country, two systems" idea with Taiwan to their minds as well.

A year before Deng Xiaoping suggested the notion to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in September of 1982 as a way to settle the Hong Kong question, Ye Jianying, the chairman of the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress, promised Taiwan that "after the country is reunified, Taiwan can enjoy a high degree of autonomy as a special ad-

ministrative region and can retain its armed forces.

"The central government will not interfere with local affairs in Taiwan. Taiwan's current socio-economic system will remain unchanged, so will its way of life and its economic and cultural relations with foreign countries."

As a model for Taiwan, Hong Kong, as a special administrative region after 1997, will possess a high degree of autonomy, with executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of financial adjudication. Its capitalist system and lifestyle will remain unchanged and its current laws basically unchanged.

"We do not attempt to influence Hong Kong with our socialist ideology," Lu says. "Nor do we think Hong Kong should influence the mainland with what is capitalist."

The mainland and Hong Kong benefit each other economically.

China exports accounted for 29.3 percent of Hong Kong's total 1986 imports and fed its trading and industrial activity. China imported through the free port goods averaging around US\$4.6 billion the past two years and also provides a big market for Hong Kong's products.

"Hong Kong has also become China's largest source of foreign currency," Lu says. China exported to or through Hong Kong goods worth \$7.56 billion, more than one-fourth of its total exports.

Love and socialist zeal

Marxism Today offers companionship, ideology

MALE SOCIALIST, 40, likes Orwell, Camus, French impressionists, Cindy Lauper and Victoria Wood, loves children, seeks humorous female...

This lonely hearts advertisement seems hardly the stuff for foreshadow a major international trend, but its appearance in the British monthly *Marxism Today* presaged the Gorbachev liberality in the Soviet Union.

The magazine, which calls itself the "theoretical and discussion journal of the Communist Party," was a prize in the struggle won by those Communists wanting to develop a British version of Marxism as opposed to so-called Stalinists who wanted strictly to reflect Moscow's line.

Marxism Today still publishes major think pieces on left politics in Britain but it has attracted a wider readership as a glossy, gossip magazine also concerned

with cultural topics. It operates a wine club for readers. Collets, the celebrated London left-wing bookshop offers magazine readers "the necessary things in life; like Soviet-style T-shirts, hip boxer shorts, sweat shirts and hats." Another advertising feature is called "Left at Play" and is "for activity which doesn't involve placards, party membership drives and religious fervor." Its lonely hearts ads are headlined "Left in Love," and includes personals such as the one above and these:

"Lively, mid-30s socialist-feminist, into pubs, walking, honesty, would like good time with same, but male."

"Gay Commie boy, 22, soap obsessed, loves dancing and hacking, seeks compatible Londonish haircut for a wild '87." *Pravda*, please note.

—By Anthony Westell, associate editor for North America.

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WHITHER COMMUNISM?

Technology lag is behind Soviet glasnost campaign

USSR computer systems trail West by 5 to 10 years

BY ANNA SANDOR
in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

AS PART OF ITS EFFORT to catch the West in the technology race, the Soviet Union has introduced computer educa-

Dr. Anna Sandor, a Hungarian-born economist, is publisher of the newsletter *Business Buro Oosteuropa* in Amsterdam.

tion in the ninth class of all its schools.

But most of the 500,000 computers the program requires will have to be imported from the West. The dream of every school having its own computer is far from coming true, despite the Soviet plan to eliminate computer illiteracy by producing 1.1 million personal computers, about 4 percent of the US total already in use, by the year 2000.

According to *Komsomolskaya Pravda*,

one computer exists for every five schools in Minsk. The situation in the countryside is much worse.

The gap between Eastern and Western high technology is too wide already and growing fast. Gorbachev cannot do without high technology—but at the same time he cannot really use it either.

The three important elements of high technology—computers, video and satellite television—contradict Soviet political isolationism. The Soviets fear an electronic postal system; leaders dislike computers communicating with each other uncontrolled.

The spread of such technology would mean the end of centralization. But without widespread use of computers, the Soviet economy, already in trouble, will lag even further behind.

The Soviets can build first-class computer systems but they cannot manage

mass production. Altogether the Soviets lag behind the West five to 10 years, depending on the specific area of comparison, from computer use to the speed and reliability of peripherals.

The Soviet Union started its computer development program later than the United States, partly because Joseph Stalin posed one of the first great obstacles. The dictator, who died in 1953, did not realize the importance of computers and considered cybernetics a pseudo-science.

The first ministry for electronics was founded in 1965. Now, there are four such ministries, three belonging to the military. Soviet electronic engineers had developed 60 different types of computers by 1970; only one-third of them went into mass production.

US sources estimate a Soviet stock of about 100,000 mainframe and mini-computers, about 10 percent of the US stock. For personal computers (PC), the difference is greater; the first Soviet PC—the AGAT—was marketed in 1983.

The government planned a yearly output of 90,000 PCs by 1990. Production in the mid-1980s was 2,000 per year.

AGAT bears a remarkable resemblance to the US-made Apple II and has been nicknamed *yabloko*, "apple" in Russian. According to US estimates, AGAT production costs are 15 times those of the Apple II. There are 10,000 PCs in the Soviet Union compared to an estimated 25 million in the United States.

Micro-electronics has been a high-priority item in the Soviet Union. Without giving precise figures, the current five-year plan through 1990 demands a 140 percent boost in production.

Western computermaker delegations are queuing up for a foothold in the Soviet market. Steve Jobs, a founder of Apple Computer, visited Moscow at the end of 1985. However, big business hopes have not been realized.

The basic Soviet problem is an inadequate telephone network which hinders communication between computers.

The Central Committee in January placed high priority on the development of the telephone infrastructure. With its 280 million people, the Soviet Union has 29 million telephone connections. In the cities, 27 percent of homes have telephones; in the countryside, only seven percent. In comparison, the United States, with 239 million people, has 92.4 percent of all homes having telephones and there are 83.1 million phone connections to households.

Despite many excellent mathematicians, Soviet software production is negligible. Software development depends on two factors—the relationship between the software producer and the user, and a good service network. Neither exists in the Soviet Union.

The Paris-based Coordinating Committee (COCOM), which includes members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), except for carefully controls exports of micro-electronic high technology to the Soviet Union, China and the Eastern bloc. Such controls contribute to the Soviet computer deficit.

WHITHER COMMUNISM?

Eastern Europeans yawn over Gorbachev feats

Reform reaction tepid amid wariness, weariness

BY ANNA SANDOR
in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

WESTERN NEWSPAPERS are featuring a new serial. The hero's name is Gorbachev. Readers eagerly follow the Soviet Communist Party leader's newest exploits. Western newspapers and specialists comment, reflect and guess the consequences of his acts.

But in Eastern Europe, where Gorbachev's initiatives may have the heaviest impact outside the Soviet Union, reactions are tepid.

The Gorbachev reforms are not new to Eastern Europe. Poland proposed similar ideas in the mid-1950s. The whole Eastern bloc, including the Soviet Union under Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin's 1965 plan, adopted them.

Czechoslovakia went the furthest. The reform virus spread to politics. Liberal Party First Secretary Alexander Dubcek also spoke then of democratization as Gorbachev does now—but Soviet tanks in Prague ended the Dubcek Spring in August 1968.

Nevertheless, Hungary's "New Economic Deal" was introduced almost immediately afterward. Since Hungary cared not only Moscow but its other

allies, reforms permitting decentralization and the law of supply and demand were introduced gradually.

Sometimes Hungary pulled back, then continued, but always watched its step and watched out for Moscow's reaction. Within COMECON, everyone complained about the old rigid ways of doing business. But everyone knew nothing would change as long as Big Brother did not tidy up his own affairs.

In short, the whole Eastern bloc waited for Soviet management to modernize. The question was: Would Moscow opt for the so-called Hungarian Way toward a market economy or would it follow the strict planning of the German Democratic Republic? Until a year ago, the Hungarian Way was believed out of the question.

It seems Gorbachev has opted for Budapest. That means Hungary can carry out reforms without fear. And for other Eastern European countries, no great courage is needed to follow in Hungary's footsteps. But instead of enthusiastic reaction to healthy economic reforms, in Eastern Europe, silence greets every initiative.

The Hungarians are not as happy. From their experience, they know that to announce change and to carry it out are two different things. Hungarians are unenthusiastic because Moscow's green light has come too late. Hungary has accumulated too many social and infrastructural problems. Its citizens are too weary from 12- to 14-hour workdays. The money and personal resources to carry out change are exhausted.

The same is true for Poland. General Jaruzelski announced a reform program five years ago but Moscow's green light has no meaning for him. The money is not there.

The German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia have the money but little enthusiasm, for which Moscow openly has reproached Prague. They are Moscow's principal trading partners in the East. They traditionally are the

East's industrial states.

But in Prague, Gorbachev's reforms meet cold disapproval and awaken memories of a 1968 subjugation that was more thorough than Hungary's in 1956 and Poland's in 1981. President Gustav Husak has opted for a planned economy, unchanged for 20 years.

The GDR has a stable economy and reasonable prosperity for two reasons. First, all systems work better with Germans. Secondly, trade with the German Federal Republic confers "silent membership" in the European Economic Community and provides an extra source of income that reduces the urgency for East Berlin to change.

In Romania, the government says change is neither necessary nor wanted, and Gorbachev's reforms cannot get on the front pages even in Bucharest. Bulgaria is the only country where the Gorbachev economic initiatives get big play and in-depth comment. In January Bulgaria announced its plans for economic management reforms as drastic as those of the Soviet Union.

It is difficult to determine if Bulgaria is the good pupil doing as the teacher orders or really wants to use the opportunity given by Big Brother.



Formerly reform-minded Czechoslovakia has little enthusiasm for Gorbachev's policies since tanks rolled in 1968.

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WHITHER COMMUNISM?

Crime and punishment exposed in a new light

Soviet magazine reveals police brutality

Editor's Note: The popular weekly Ogonyok has gone from a reactionary Soviet journal to a leading voice of Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign for glasnost. As an example of what the Russian public is reading, here are excerpts from a February Ogonyok article by Dmitri Likhonov exposing—with graphic detail—considered unprecedented in the Soviet Union—beating and torture in the city of Petrozavodsk by police trying to extract a confession of theft from a metalworker named Velikainen:

VELIKAINEN HAD just gone on second shift when suddenly the foreman of the third training area came up to him and sternly said, "You're wanted in the department of cadres, Velikainen."

If you're wanted, you gotta go. Right away. He went. Two men were waiting for him. Tough lads. Interesting. They're both dressed in civilian clothes. "Are you Velikainen?" they said.

"Sure am."

"Right then. You come with us. We're from the police."

Report—To: The head of the October

Translated by Brook Horowitz, a British Fulbright scholar at the Harvard Russian Research Center.

District Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA), Petrozavodsk, Lieutenant-Colonel Comrade Strelchenko.

From: operational staff member Kapashinov:

"I hereby report that on 25 July 1985, staff member Bogdanov and I fetched citizen Velikainen from his workplace and took him to the October District Department of the MOIA. Bogdanov and I conducted a conversation with Velikainen in room 212. By that time, the stolen tires had been recovered. Velikainen would reveal nothing about the theft. He repeated only that he was a 'fool.' A few times, we sent him out into the corridor to think things over. On 26 July, Velikainen confessed in writing and was arrested."

From testimony later submitted by Velikainen:

"I was taken to the room on the first floor. I sat on a chair with a table on my right. Kapashinov and Bogdanov began the interrogation. Kapashinov sat behind the table, facing me. Bogdanov stayed for about 30 minutes and then left. Then, two men walked in.

Concept is as old as Peter the Great

Glasnost is intellectual catchword

Just as "democratization," as the word is used in the Soviet Union, is a far cry from Western concepts of democracy, another Gorbachev catch term, *glasnost*, or "openness," has a specific meaning inseparable from the Russian social and political system from which it emerged.

Glasnost derives from the Old Church Slavonic root *glas* meaning voice, speech or publicity, implying not so much frankness or honesty as public accountability. It has a distinct legal connotation, referring to open court hearings, the opposite of in camera.

Glasnost has been linked inextricably to Russian and Soviet rulers since Peter the Great rationalized the bureaucracy in the eighteenth century.

In the nineteenth century, so-called "enlightened bureaucrats" used *glasnost* as a weapon against bureaucratic tyranny, secrecy and corruption as described in Gogol's play *The Inspector General*.

Glasnost was not designed to challenge the authority of the autocrat, but to preserve the

czar's position by forging a body of middle-of-the-road opinion and relieving some of the tension caused by the suppression of ideas, although the policy contributed to the freeing of the serfs in 1861.

Glasnost went both too far and not far enough. It raised expectations for reform that the authorities would or could not fulfill.

Divergent opinions became irreconcilable. Internal stress proved too much and led in 1905 and 1917 to rupture and revolution.

Gorbachev's *glasnost* not only mirrors the "enlightened bureaucrats' policy, use of the term is a conscious reference to that precedent and could not fail to be recognized as such by the liberal intelligentsia.

The word conveys a message of compromise, a cease-fire in the traditional battle between the leadership and the intelligentsia. Those seeking complete freedom of speech and other rights are aware of the connotation of limits to ensure that they will exercise caution in pressing their demands.

—By Brook Horowitz



Soviet police, like these dragging a would-be immigrant from the US embassy in Moscow, now must work under heavier press scrutiny.

"I didn't see who hit me first. I immediately fell silent. Kapashinov started trying to persuade me to confess saying this was no game, that even if I didn't say anything, they already knew all about me, that it would be easier for me if I confessed. I said nothing.

"Then Kapashinov stood up, walked behind me and hit me on the head. Then seizing my throat, he started to strangle me. My tongue began to loll out of my mouth, and my eyes were popping out of their sockets.

"Someone told Kapashinov to stop. He let me go, sat opposite me again, and at that moment, the man in the red shirt kicked me in my side. I fell from the chair. While I lay on the floor, they stopped hitting me. Someone said to me, 'You're not in pain. Stop pretending.'

"I got up and sat on the chair again. They said to me, 'Go and think things over,' and led me into the corridor. Then they brought me back into the room. I received several blows to my head. Again they tried to persuade me to confess to the theft. Then I was once again taken into the corridor and then brought back into the room.

"This time there were only two of us along with another policeman. He chatted with me in a friendly way. He said he had been working on the police force for seven years and that if I had really committed the crime, my confession would be needed not so much for him as for myself. The policeman said that the minister himself knew about this case.

"I replied that that was a useful piece of information and laughed. Thereupon, I was dealt a series of blows from behind and from the side. My eyebrow was cut and bled. Kapashinov handed me a rag and said, 'Wipe yourself.' I spent the whole evening and night in the district

department. The next day they took me back to the same room. They beat me again. At about 6 p.m., I grew tired and decided to confess to the crime.

I requested a piece of paper and a pen. After that, Kalishinov took me to solitary confinement. On the morning of 27 July, a policeman called me out of my cell and asked me whether I had committed another robbery. I answered that I had done nothing else.

"Think it over," he said, "or else the lads are waiting for you upstairs."

On 29 July, I lost consciousness in the washroom.

The writer reported Velikainen underwent surgery for internal bleeding, a stomach injury and a broken spleen. Kapashinov was given a three-year suspended sentence for his part in the beating. The local minister and other high officials were dismissed. The writer concludes:

Wasn't the issue that those who perpetrated these crimes, wrapped safely in their greatcoats, felt above the law, as though their greatcoats had been reinforced?

What would have happened if the procurator had not investigated this case? The policeman would have been left off the hook, maybe even promoted. They would have continued to act as though they were exempt from fairness and justice. This has already happened in our history and forget it, we must not. The rule of law must take first place.

Many policemen, several posthumously, have earned decorations and medals. We remember them with gratitude. But let us not forget, however much we might like to do so, those who huddling in their reinforced greatcoats, throw a dark show on the reputations of the rest. ♦

WHITHER COMMUNISM?

Picture Señor Gorbachev on Latin American tour

If pope can do it, why not Soviet leader?

By ANDREW MCLEOD
in Buenos Aires, Argentina

PICTURE THIS: Soviet Secretary-General Mikhail Gorbachev on tour as the first Soviet leader to visit Latin America.

The prospect was raised by Athos Fava, founder and secretary-general of the Argentine Communist Party, when he met Gorbachev in Moscow March 3.

"We told him Latin America is effectively closed to Fidel Castro," Fava said in Moscow. "But the pope makes extensive tours, and there are countless visits by delegations by bourgeois states. The Yankees walk around as though they are at home."

Fava says Gorbachev is keen to visit and even has an invitation from the Argentine government.

"We were told when we were in Moscow that it would be very healthy, with a view toward promoting world peace, if he visited this country," Fava said during an interview. "But he has no plans to make a visit. The Politburo is merely studying the possibility."

Fava's visit to the Soviet Union coincided with a shift not only in the Soviet Union, but with changes within the Argentine party as well. He insisted they were unconnected.

While he expects Gorbachev's reforms to strengthen the socialist movement around the world, "the Argentine Communist Party is a product of Argentine society," said Fava, who founded the party in 1945 at the age of 19 and became its chief four years ago. "It is completely independent. We have no intention of allowing anyone to give us advice, nor do we give others advice. No one can dictate the methods to be used in the revolutionary process of another country."

"We do, of course, exchange points of view. But the problem of dependence, which the bourgeoisie is always harping on, is their problem, not one of communism. They say that the Communist Party is a subsidiary, but what has really happened over the past 20 years or so is the internationalization of the Communist Party. It is the multinationals who really operate subsidiaries, exploiting countries all around the world."

The Argentine Communist Party congress brought about its own shift in policy, correcting past political errors such as tolerance of the former military regime in what party spokesmen said had been an effort to bring about peace-

ful change.

The party now takes a tougher stance on such issues as favoring a moratorium on the repayment of Argentina's foreign debt and on pushing for agrarian reform. Fava said Gorbachev had repeated his fears that unless the debt problem is liquidated, no major social upheavals could occur on the continent.



Athos Fava favors Latin tour for Gorbachev.

The 59,000 member Communist Party has joined what party officials describe as "an instrument for revolution," a front for national and social liberation. Other groups in the movement include the Peronist Youth, 26 de Julio and ML-17 factions, as well as the MAS (Movement Toward Argentine Socialism).

While it would take time for the effects of *perestroika* (reconstruction) to reach Argentina, Fava said socialism would be given a shot in the arm in Europe.

"Some Euro-socialist countries became committed to the West, technologically speaking," he said, "because the Soviet Union could not provide them with what they needed. The Soviet Union will very shortly be in a position to help these countries."

The Argentine party chief tempered his enthusiasm about Gorbachev's reforms with a warning that transforming Soviet society would not be easy.

"The problem is how to change the mentality of all the Soviet people," he said. "How can *perestroika* change the way of thinking, the way of working. This must be done in order to make way for Soviet youth who stand to benefit most from the reforms."

"There is, fortunately, massive support from the people for these reforms. The Soviet Union began to lose ground

to the United States, in the 1970s. The aim now is to recover that lost ground with the active participation of Soviet youth. There is greater access now to books, films and newspapers. Newspaper circulation, as a result of the reforms, has increased.

"However, it must be understood that there are certain sectors that are opposed to all this. This is because the reforms are so far-reaching they are affecting the interests of the conservatives."

Fava said the party saw the release of prisoners in the Soviet Union as a "positive step, the first of many."

But that did not mean acceptance at home of the *punto final* (full stop) law, which in February effectively ended the presentation of charges against military officers involved in human rights violations in the so-called "dirty war" against left-wing terrorism in the 1970s.

During the strife, 110 party members, including several from the Central Committee, disappeared. Party officials say 5,000 members, most of them tortured, went through concentration camps. Twenty-two were murdered before the extreme rightist Argentine Anti-

Communist Alliance's 1976 coup toppling the government of Maria Estela Martinez de Peron.

When the party failed to take a strong official stance against the military regime, it lost face with the public.

Now, strong opposition to the *punto final* law has become a plank in the new party platform.

"We think *punto final* is a disguised amnesty, the government's attitude will not strengthen democracy in this country," said Fava. "On the contrary, the military will be strengthened. Complicity will not encourage them to respect the constitution."

"But the government did this for the following reason: the economic situation here is worsening each day, the debt is growing and so has the balance of payments deficit, so we need more credit. But as the loans cannot be paid back, we capitalize the debt, handing over our oil, our gas, handing over the state companies, the people will not accept that, so the government will eventually need the military to carry out its economic plan. That is why the government introduced the full stop law." ♦

Moscow's stamp of legitimacy

Breakaway Reds applaud reform

Mikhail Gorbachev's drive to "democratize" Soviet society has created a paradox among the nearly one million members of the divided Communist Party in the Soviet Union's largest Asian ally—India. The Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), which broke away 20 years ago from Moscow following Nikita Khrushchev's attempts at de-Stalinization, has welcomed the campaign much more warmly than CPI-Moscow (CPI) loyalists.

"We have no reservations at all in this," M. Basavapunniah, a CPI-M Politburo member, says of the Gorbachev initiatives. "We are giving wide publicity to the Soviet reforms."

The Moscow branch of the party has distanced itself to the extent that M. Faruqi, one of its secretaries, says, "the CPI supports measures that are being taken with reference to democratization and reorganization of the economy. But it is for the Soviet leadership to decide how to do it."

The CPI supported de-Stalinization in 1964, while the Marxists believed the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party which espoused it was really anti-revolutionary. The Marxists never quite believed in immediately starting revolution in the countryside, but they moved closer to the Chinese Communist line.

Ever since, CPI-Marxists have outshone the mother party. They occasionally became part of the ruling coalition in Kerala state and are the dominant political force in the government of West Bengal

and its celebrated and berated capital, Calcutta. More highly concentrated than their rivals in the southern states and the Punjab, the CPI-Marxists claim 350,000 members to the CPI's claim of about 500,000.

The Marxists also claim their political successes have given them a stamp of legitimacy, even from the Soviet party, that their rivals do not possess. The Soviet reforms are seen as evidence of correction in Soviet society, implying that under Gorbachev, the CPI will not be treated, as in the past, as the only Communist Party in India.

Basavapunniah and his fellow Politburo member, Harishan Singh Surjeet, attended the Soviet party's 27th Congress last year. Gorbachev met them and E.M.S. Mamboodiripad, the Marxist secretary general, during his visit to India in December.

"During the past 22 years, different world parties have come to realize that the CPI-M is one of the foremost left forces in the life of the nation," Basavapunniah explained. "As this awareness grows, relations with other brother parties get fraternalized and proper, party-to-party relations are established."

As for the loyalists, Faruqi remarks that if Soviet leaders during the process of reform "find some mistakes have been committed, they are strong enough to correct them. We wish them well."

—By Arun Chacko, associate editor for South Asia.

Handwritten text in the right margin: "The CPI-M is the only Communist Party in India."

GRAIN POLITICS

With help of soybean, 'world can feed
500 million starving,' says executive

Here's a way to outwit hunger

BY DWAYNE ANDREAS
in Decatur, USA

THE LATE Egyptian president, Abdul Gamal Nasser, once told me that the US aid that did the most good for his country was the lowest in cost—donations of food and food technology that enabled him to carry out a daily hot lunch program for school children.

He said the food was an incentive for parents to send their children to school, and the program's success had encouraged him to plan 800 more schools. He also said getting the children into school not only helped Egypt's literacy program, it provided the opportunity to vaccinate pupils and to teach mothers about birth control.

His example was one of many illustrating the impact of food where it is badly needed.

But in a world where an estimated 500 million people are doomed to starvation and more than two billion are debilitated from malnutrition, why is not more being done? Feeding a nutritionally adequate diet to the world's hungry is an achievable challenge, even within current budget limits. Compared to national security expenditures that cost the West one trillion US dollars, feeding the world's hungry is the most cost effective way to increase the likelihood of political stability.

To provide one person an adequate diet of blended foods that meet nutritional guidelines would run between US\$50 and \$100 a year.

The money is also a capital investment, as one of the world's largest cement companies learned at a new plant in Africa that was producing at 30 percent of capacity because labor productivity was at 20 percent of normal, absenteeism averaged 35 percent and

Dwayne Andreas is chief executive officer of Archer Daniels Midland Company, a multinational commodities exporter.

worker turnover was 70 percent annually. Management decided to provide several hundred employees with one daily all-they-could-eat, high-protein, hot meal of vegetables, soy protein, meat and soy milk. The results were astonishing. Sickness almost vanished. In 18 months, workers gained an average of 30 pounds each. Absenteeism dropped to one half of one percent. Turnover dropped to three percent. Production tripled.

We can learn from Chinese eating habits. We tend to think China is ill-fed because of the small amount of money the Chinese have to spend on food. On close examination, we find they are very

well fed.

At 5 o'clock in the morning in Peking, I watched long lines of people at bakeries carrying pitchers or buckets for a morning supply of hot soy milk.

For 2000 years, the Chinese have gotten their protein requirement by making dozens of foods out of soy protein. Millions of tons of soy milk come from the protein and vegetable oil in soybeans.

In one serving of that soy milk is one day's protein requirement—at a cost of \$0.03. It is the equivalent or more of cow's milk.

Protein from soy costs the Chinese less than \$0.20 a pound. Westerners seek their protein requirements from meat, which on a dry basis—it is 80 percent water—costs more like \$5 a pound.

If the one billion Chinese sought the same protein from meat, the cost of keeping several hundred million animals would devastate their economy and reduce protein supply.

The West uses up to 21 pounds of protein for animal feed to obtain a pound of protein in the form of meat. Five percent of the protein fed to cattle is returned for human consumption as meat. Ninety-five percent is spent keeping animals alive.

That inefficient production, plus the expense of refrigerating and handling meat increases the protein cost more than tenfold. But in the West, we like meat and can afford it.

Americans make up only 6 percent of the world's population but they account for 30 percent of its total meat consumption, five times the world's average and 15 times the average meat intake for people in East Asia. American farmers use more soybeans and grains as fodder than farmers in any other country.

India is home to one-third of the world's hungry and malnourished. Two

hundred million people, mostly children, are malnourished. India's leading nutritionist, C. Gopalan, from the India Council of Medical Research, New Delhi, warned in 1983 that of the 23 million Indian newborns that year, three million would die in their first year, a million before they completed childhood, nine million would become adults with serious physical and mental impairment and seven million would suffer milder malnutrition. All but three million would survive unimpaired.

All this in a country that has achieved self-sufficiency in wheat and rice. Severe malnourishment still exists primarily because of a lack of an adequate balance of protein and calories, according to the World Bank.

In Calcutta, Mother Theresa's people gather local vegetables and grains to stew in a large kettle with pieces of soy protein that taste and chew like meat. The physical response to this diet by the poor she feeds has been dramatic. Energy has replaced listlessness, and people have developed an increased resistance to colds, infections and disease.

Because of our luxurious diets in the West, we tend to overestimate the cost of feeding the world's hungry. But the US Food for Peace program has demonstrated for 30 years an effective concept. Flour, grits, meal from surplus wheat and corn, vegetable oils and protein flours from surplus oilseeds blend successfully into nutritional foods distributed under Food for Peace. They require no refrigeration and keep indefinitely without loss of nutritional value. By using surplus grains and oilseeds from the United States and the European community, we can produce enough nutritious foods to sharply reduce hunger at a very reasonable cost.

The European Economic Community spends \$4 billion a year to store surplus. The United States spends more. Surplus that is costly, market disruptive and politically destabilizing should be used to provide the nutrition that half a billion people need desperately.

Food for Peace put South Korea back on its feet in a classic example of how food aid promotes social and economic development while building markets for US farm products. From 1956 to 1981, when the program ended, South Korea received food aid worth \$1.6 billion.

When the first aid arrived, the economy was in a shambles. Per capita income was about \$100 and exports were \$20 million annually. In modern South Korea, per capita income has risen to more than \$1,600, with exports running over \$18 billion a year. US farmers earn about \$1.5 billion a year from commercial agricultural exports to South Korea.

The US government should launch a new worldwide campaign to end hunger and invite other surplus producing countries to share in it.

Even without the tremendous humanitarian benefits, the program to feed

GRAIN POLITICS

End chaos, make grain treaty

Major players urged to join international agreement

In a conversation with World-Paper, Dwayne Andreas proposes, as a corollary to his article on feeding the world's hungry, that it is time major world grain exporters end the intrusion of domestic and international politics into the business of providing food for the world and reach an accord on world trade.

"Agricultural trade over the last 25 years has become so global that no country any longer is in charge of its own destiny. Agricultural programs are run by big governments, not farmers. Farmers do not compete with other farmers. Workers do not compete with other workers. The farmers and the workers are competing with governments. Naturally it follows that there will have to be an international understanding to bring order out of chaos.

"It certainly would not be a cartel because that has been proven many times over history to be impossible to handle and police. It could take the form, for example, of a meeting between the European Economic Community and the United States because we are the two most important culprits and if we could agree to some constructive efforts toward long-term solutions to the global problem of getting food to where it needs to be consumed, we could then invite the other players who produce surpluses, like Australia, Brazil, Canada and Argentina to join with us in this effort.

"The United States has shrunk away from international commodity agreements, but the time has come that if you stay out you will get into economic and political trouble. You cannot manage your own affairs any longer as though you were living in an isolated spot in this world.

"We are all committing the same sin. We are stimulating production and it is uneconomic and not in the interest of this planet for the long pull. Half the topsoil in the United States is gone and it is not in the interest of the population of this world to have the richer countries use up their topsoil producing grain that is not needed and then living with the resulting problems.

"So the first thing that the United States and the EEC need to do is to agree to cease and

desist from programs which stimulate uneconomic production. We can do that very easily and with political success, which is of course vital, by simply adopting matching soil conservation programs, which we both drastically need. We need to plant a trillion trees in this country and a trillion or more in the EEC to stop the erosion of soil and to hold up water.

"All sorts of economic gimmicks make it impossible for many countries to buy or even produce their own food. Internationally we would pool our resources into simple, very low-cost forms of food to go to the nations that are very, very hungry.

"You will eventually develop enormous agricultural resources in almost all those countries. The amount that we will have to provide them will be relatively small in relation to the total, but it will be the catalyst, will get them started. There is no question that they will become producers.

"That can be done. It is better and cheaper to do that with surpluses than to store them, pay storage and interest and let them rot and to pay our farmers to be idle. If we had a broad-based consumption program worldwide there would be a chance for free enterprise and human rights to thrive. Given the choice between hunger and freedom, freedom will always loose out. That is what is happening. Totalitarian governments are based on hunger—not on weapons, not on military activity—on hunger.

"If people are weak and they begin to realize that they have nothing and the rest of us have full bellies, we are going to have political trouble like you cannot believe. And I think we would be very smart to head it off while we can afford to.

"We would solve not only the economic problem but the political problem of the world and it would be the best way to arrest totalitarianism. The Western world is spending a trillion dollars a year on armaments to stop totalitarianism. A tiny fraction of that—less than five percent—would put a bowl of oatmeal or cream of wheat or cornmeal and some good soy protein, the equivalent of meat and milk, in every stomach in the world."

the world's hungry makes fiscal sense from the standpoint of reducing long-term outlays for national defense and security by improving international stability.

It makes sense for our free enterprise system. If our society is to continue

to grow, it must show it is capable of overcoming complex global social and economic problems. The age-old scourge of world hunger and malnutrition represents a challenge that must receive our very best efforts in order to succeed.

John C. 1.16

GRAIN POLITICS

Aussie anger over wheat strains US relationship

Farm leader warns of no bases for Yanks

By LEE CATMULL
in Canberra, Australia

IAN McLACHLAN, president of the powerful 170,000-member National Farmers Federation, was angry enough to suggest that Prime Minister Bob Hawke's government reappraise its defense arrangements with the United States and consider removing major US intelligence-gathering stations from Australia.

That is bold talk in a country that takes pride in the fact that only Australians, of all US allies, fought alongside the United States in its four conflicts from World War I to the Vietnam War.

But McLachlan's anger is a good example of the passion generated when politics and grain mix.

No government authorities have been

Lee Catmull has covered economic news from Canberra for AP-Dow Jones and CCH Australia.

as extreme as McLachlan, who has not served in the armed forces. But officials have suggested that an Australia with reduced wheat export income may not have the cash to buy US defense equipment. The export wheat trade is worth about US\$2.2 billion to Australia.

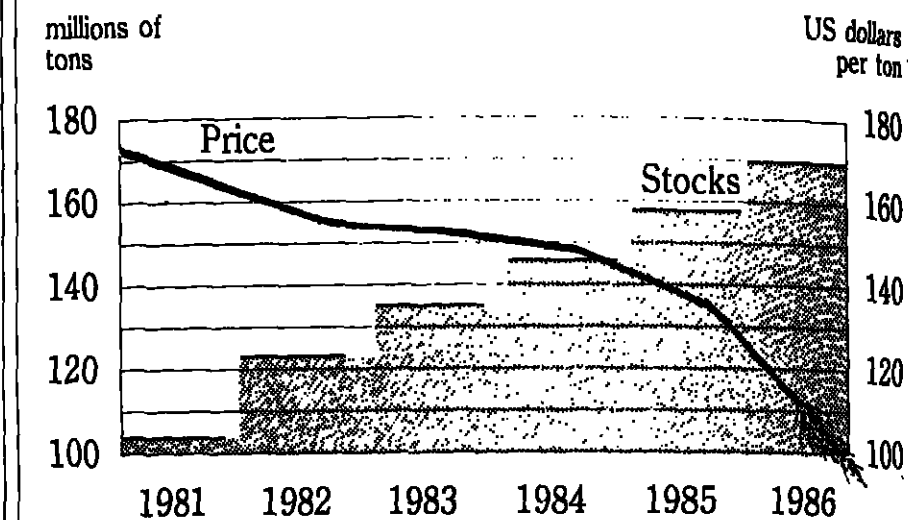
The Australian mood was served splendidly in March by the visit of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze of the Soviet Union, an important customer for any wheat exporting country. The Soviets purchased 3.17 million tons of Australian wheat—about a fifth of the nation's entire export crop of 15.96 million tons—in 1985-86, up from 1.7 million tons the year before.

Government officials have pointed out that the Soviet media has suggested the usually carefully coordinated US and Australian foreign policies are diverging because of the economic impact of Washington's agricultural policy.

Australian wheat farmers are hurting. They blame the United States and the European Economic Community for

As stocks rise, prices dive

In past five years, growing world wheat surplus has sent producers' prices crashing through floor



their pain.

Under the US Food Security Act of 1985, the United States has used "export enhancement" subsidies to try to broaden its share of the world market in wheat and rice, provoking farmers' anger over the its role in driving down world prices from the Argentine pampas to the paddies of Thailand.

John Kerin, minister of primary industry in Hawke's government, blames a collapse in world prices for wheat, barley and rice to what he calls "the corruption of world markets" because of heavy subsidizing of exports by the United States and the EEC.

With wheat farmers angered over the drop in returns from A\$183 per ton in 1984-85 to A\$144—less than US\$100—this season, Kerin said the bad news was that the Soviet Union bought wheat in February from the EEC at \$75. He said the export subsidy, or the restitution as the EEC calls it, was \$168 a ton.

"The EEC probably paid farmers \$200 to \$300 to grow the stuff in the first place," he said.

As a result of a good harvest at home and the low prices it received from the EEC, the Soviet Union has turned its back on US wheat, despite its long-term agreement with the United States to buy at least 8.5 million metric tons of grain and soybeans annually. Not even an offer of a subsidy up to \$15 a ton—which provoked howls of protest from competing wheat suppliers, including Australia—was enough to stimulate Soviet purchases. Two years ago, the Soviets bought \$2.7 billion in US grain.

With a growing need to sell the wheat the Soviets may spurn, Australian officials say the United States has offered to sell the grain for as much as A\$45 under world prices to traditional Australian markets in China and in such Middle East countries as the Yemen Arab Republic. Australia shipped 3.2 million tons of wheat to China and more than five million tons to the Middle East in 1985-86.

The Australians fear being burned by the United States, as happened with another commodity, sugar. The United States has delivered 145,850 metric tons of sugar worth \$15.3 million to China this

year and sold it at 26 percent below the world price. The deal represented a \$40 million loss for the US government, which claimed the deal was the best it could manage for the surplus stock it was required to sell before the end of 1986. Australia, which sold 490,000 metric tons of sugar to China in 1985, protested to the United States.

The Australian Wheat Board has vowed to meet the new market prices to dispose of the 15-million-ton 1986-87 wheat crop. Since it cannot match US or EEC subsidies, the Australian farmers will bear the loss.

Treasurer Paul Keating already has told Australians they will have to accept a lower living standard.

Falling commodity prices have been blamed for everything from a 35 percent drop in the value of the Australian dollar, 18.5 percent interest rates, the tripling of the net external debt in two years, the evaporation of an A\$185 million merchandise trade balance three years ago into a A\$3.4 billion deficit last year and farmer bankruptcies to a reported 34 percent increase in farmer suicides.

With the Australian government claiming "world agriculture has not been in a worse position since the Great Depression," the Hawke government has embarked on an international campaign to seek a truce in the subsidy war between the United States and the EEC by reminding both of the effect it has had on other trading countries.

In a keynote address at the world economic forum at Davos, Switzerland, early this year, Hawke unveiled a seven-point proposal to seek an accord on agricultural trade reform at the seven-nation Western economic summit in Venice next month.

He seeks a subsidy freeze, followed by a cut in internally supported prices, and quarantining surplus stocks to reduce fears of the flooding of the world market, then negotiation for the accord.

One motive behind his proposals is Hawke's standing in domestic politics. Many believe the extent to which he is successful in promoting the accord may determine whether his Labor government will return to power in elections due late this year or early in 1988.

GRAIN POLITICS

'Black ship' watershed looms for Japanese rice

Import demands to test power of growers lobby

By MASANORI TABATA
in Tokyo, Japan

"THIS MAY PROVE to be yet another mission by black ships," quipped a conservative member of Diet. "Who knows?"

The Liberal Democratic Party member, unwilling to be identified, referred to a symbol of one of the great turning points in Japanese history.

The "black ships" were the steam-driven, iron-clad US frigates that Commodore Matthew C. Perry sailed into Tokyo harbor in 1853 on his mission to end Japan's 300 years of seclusion.

On the surface, the occasion provoking the remark seemed hardly as Japan making. The US Rice Miller's Association had filed a complaint with US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter last September seeking retaliatory measures against Japan's restrictions that virtually prohibit rice imports.

The United States managed to export 36 tons of rice to Japan in 1986; somewhat better than Pakistan's export of one ton.

The LDP member was speculating that the complaint, eventually denied by Yeutter, would bring down one of the most sacrosanct pillars of Japanese political society—the four-decade-old Staple Food Control System which ostensibly guarantees rice self-sufficiency.

The policy seems to work. The Japanese consumed 10,938,000 tons of rice in 1985 and the nation's farmers grew 11,653,800 tons of it.

The system also protects Japan's politically-nurtured rice growing culture. It is a vivid illustration of the close relationship between grain and politics in the nation and its impact on Japanese domestic and international policy.

As the US rice growers complained, the Japanese domestic rice price is kept at more than 10 times the international price by generous government subsidies to local growers under the Staple Food Control Law of 1942. The price in Japan is four times as high as the US price.

Japanese consumers spend between 4,000 and 5,500 yen (US\$26-36) for 10 kg of rice. The average household (3.69 persons) purchased 150.96 kg at a cost of 72,802 yen (\$485) according to 1986 statistics.

With the government controlling all rice distribution, one 60-kg bale of rice costing consumers 33,000 yen (\$220), returns \$124 to the farmer.

Masanori Tabata is a staff writer for the Japan Times, a Tokyo-based, English-language daily newspaper.

Nakasone.

The farmers' legislative clout is reflected in the disproportionate power of the rural vote. If an urban politician needs 438,000 votes to guarantee a Diet seat, a rural politician needs only 100,000 votes.

Considering the situation unfair to taxpayers and consumers, the Tokyo-based newspaper *Sankei Shimbun* has launched an extensive campaign against the Staple Food Control System.

Rice politics makes the dispute with the United States over tight regulation of rice imports a potentially critical issue in a troubled government already concerned with anti-Japanese protectionism abroad.

An informed source close to Japan's agricultural industry noted the Japanese government—and business circles—are susceptible to pressures from foreign countries.

US Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Lyng has said a complete opening of Japan's rice market was highly unlikely, but he would "urge that (the Japanese) consider sharing their rice market."

Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari told Yeutter that decontrol was next to impossible because of the "political reality in Japan and the fact that rice has been the primary staple food for the Japanese for centuries."

Japan does import foreign rice, buying in 1986 a total of 6,296 tons, 6,026 from Thailand, 233 from China, those 36 tons from the United States and that one ton from Pakistan.

By law, these far less expensive imports are labeled "industrial" and limited for use in making *shochu* (distilled sake), *miso* (grain paste used in soups) and *sembei* (crackers). ♦

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SHEAFFER

John C. 116

Author speaks: Nicaragua would not leave me

The first in an occasional series in which authors discuss their new work, *Salman Rushdie, a Bombay-born writer who migrated with his family to Pakistan and now lives in Great Britain, speaks of The Jaguar Smile. With its non-fiction account of his visit in July 1986 to Nicaragua, his latest book represents a departure from his fanciful novels, Shame and Midnight's Children, respectively about Pakistani politics and the circumstances around the independence of India and Pakistan.*

"I NEVER WENT to Nicaragua with the intention of writing a book. It emerged as a book simply because when I got back, the subject would not leave me alone until I wrote it out of my system."

"It was an obsession that wrote itself into a book. Part of the obsession was that it was impossible to make a simple statement about Nicaragua. Every time I wished to make a statement of support, immediately I felt obliged to back off and make a number of caveats. Because there was that complexity about the place, I found myself unable to write a light, short journalistic piece because the simplification involved in

THE JAGUAR SMILE, by **Salman Rushdie**. Elizabeth Sifton Books. Viking, New York, USA. 171 pp., US\$12.95.

By Janet Davis Castro
in Boston, USA

Salman Rushdie's book, *The Jaguar Smile*, is a luke-warm treatment of a much-abused topic: What I learned in a few, short weeks in Nicaragua.

Countless journalists have gone to revolutionary Nicaragua to "see what it's all about." The end result is usually (and this is no exception) another flat view of an extremely complex situation.

Rushdie's three-week whirlwind tour in July 1986 took him from coast to coast, to cities and small towns. He spoke to all kinds of people—commoners as well as leaders—and he tries to tell all their stories. In fact, he often

that was precisely the reason that I found such pieces had not prepared me for what I experienced there.

"Nicaragua really caught me unprepared. The intensity of it. People said to

seems to be recording them for himself in a kind of journal. I felt more like an intruder than a reader for whom the book was intended. He fails to take the reader with him (as does Joan Didion in *Salvador* and Margaret Randall in *Sandino's Daughters*); I could never quite forget that I was sitting in my living room chair.

For a writer of Rushdie's experience, the work is disappointing. There are few insightful commentaries and fewer original approaches to difficult issues.

The writer himself says he did not go to Nicaragua "as a blank slate" but, even for all his preparation, the book is run-of-the-mill. Perhaps, had he focused on one or two themes rather than trying to give the once-over to everything from land reform to liberation theology, he might have contributed to the sparse body of good writing on Central America.

Well...maybe next trip.

The best part was the epilogue, the author's chance conversation with a Nicaraguan woman returning to her middle-class life in England. In response to a question on whether the Sandinista government should try and make peace with the Americans, she first corrects his misuse of the word "Americans." "But we are Americans, not just them," she says.

She then adds: "No, they can't give in. The war must go on. The revolution exists. It has to exist, or there's no hope."

That statement captures the heart and soul of Nicaragua. Whether we like it or not, revolution is the hope of the poor in Central America—they feel they have nothing left to lose.

Janet Davis Castro has traveled extensively in Central America and works with Salvadoran refugees in Boston.

me it was a moving place. But I certainly had not expected that the intensity of the experience would be so great. My position in going to Nicaragua was in opposition to the United States intervention. I do not accept America's claim to be the world's policeman. Anywhere. That in itself would not have made me support and feel warmly toward the Sandinistas. In a way, it worried me. I felt rather unnerved that I might find that these were not people that I could feel comfortable being in the same camp as. I had the sense that an injustice was being done to Nicaragua and it was important to find about it.

"The effect the experience had on me as a writer was to produce this book. I do not feel that I would ever write fiction set in or around Central America. It is not my patch. I do not have the depth of cultural knowledge, to begin to write fiction about it.

"The last two books I have done have had a predominantly historical project involved. I do not really feel I am going to always have to do that. If this book has offered me anything, it is the possibility of separating those projects so that I might be able to write books that have nothing to do with history. If I ever need to meddle in public affairs, there may be another way of doing it.

"History is a fascinating subject, but it is not the only subject of literature. I am quite interested in moving on to others. For example, the book that I am writing now has essentially to do with the theme of migration, which, come to think of it, is also a historical theme. It is the great historical event of the twentieth century.

"It creates an entirely new definition of self, entirely new ways of being when one is dislocated from one's language, one's traditions and one's roots. I feel

this is my own life. I am myself a migrant from India and Pakistan. It is what I am. Some days, it is easier than others. But it is also increasingly my subject. Although India and Pakistan will always remain to me absolutely central to my imaginative landscape, I can see them not always being at the center of what I write. More and more I am examining these kinds of themes rather than the specific political themes of the last two books.

"The problem with politics in Pakistan is there is no horse to back. I am really less impressed by Benazir Bhutto than many Western commentators. Not because of her views, which seem to be all right, but because of her political acumen. She seems to be no match for the extremely formidable dictator she is up against. She fooled herself into thinking it would be easy to get rid of Zia. Zia has won every trick in Pakistan.

"Since leaving Nicaragua, one view that I have has changed. When I left Nicaragua last year, it seemed to me quite possible that there might be direct American intervention. Especially at the point when the US\$100 million given the *contras* had been spent and it was clear the *contras* were not going to unseat the Sandinistas.

"The *contras* are more or less a spent force. That ought to be the moment of maximum danger for Nicaragua because it was believed always that the moment the *contras* were finished was the moment when the Americans might invade.

"There seems to be a view in the United States that some other solution needs to be looked for, other than the military one. I hear people saying intervention is still possible. My own view is that I do not think it is still possible. There is no longer that kind of political will in the United States."

BY SARAH BRICKMAN

Reversible vasectomy

Vasectomies are easy and cheap to perform, safe and very nearly foolproof as a form of birth control. They have also, until recently, been irreversible.

Traditionally, during a vasectomy the vas deferens, the tiny tubes which deliver sperm to the penis, are cut or blocked. Sperm is still made but it does not develop properly and even microsurgery that repairs the damage to the tubes will not allow sperm to return to its normal, fertile state.

US-based scientists, however, have been experimenting successfully with a vasectomy method that is completely reversible. In this operation the severed ends of the vas deferens are connected to the urinary bladder, allowing normally produced sperm to pass through the body. Sperm development is not affected and microsurgery which can reconnect the tubes can, in this case, also restore fertility.

Male-controlled birth control of this sort cannot be neglected in a moment of passion as condoms, diaphragms and spermicides can, and do not have the harmful side effects of birth control pills.

Poor planning

Seventy-three years after the first ship moved through the marvel of engineering that is the Panama Canal, bad planning has reared its ugly head. The 12,000 ships that move through the 50-mile-long waterway each year are lifted 85 feet above sea level to cross the mountainous spine of the Panama Isthmus by a series of locks. The locks function as liquid elevators that lift the ships by degrees over the mountains and then lower them to sea level on the other side.

To move each ship through, 52 million gallons of water are pumped into—and then flushed out of—the

canal. The necessary water comes from 165-sq.-mi., dam-created Gatun Lake and Madden Lake, a dam-built lake created in 1935.

Unfortunately for international commerce, the lakes are loosing their water. Farmers who lost their prime farmlands to the canal and the lakes necessary to run it, were forced to move into the dense tropical rain forest that blankets the 1300-sq.-mi. watershed around the canal. Because the soil of the rain forest is not conducive to growing, crops exhaust it each year. Thus, each year, about 800 acres of new forest must be clear for planting; 70 percent of the original expanse is already gone. The loss of rain forest changes climatic, rain making conditions in the area and exacerbates a soil erosion problem. When rains do come, the thin topsoil of the forest flows into the canal's feeder lakes. By the year 2020, environmentalists report, 20 percent of Madden Lake will be filled with silt. That means 20 percent less soil for the farmers and 20 percent less water in the lake.

Bad environmental planning created the problem in the first place. And today the government-promoted solution is not to heal the rain forest-farm-canal situation, but to move the canal or cut a sea-level canal through the mountains.

Japan as #1

A writer for *Asahi Shimbun*, one of Japan's largest and most respected newspapers, recently wrote that a poll taken in a white-collar, working-class neighborhood in Tokyo revealed that residents are very much impressed with themselves.

More than 80 percent of the respondents said that the Japanese are "the world's smartest, hardest-working people." More than 70 percent said that Japan functions better than any other society.

The writer, Shuichi Kato, argues that Japan's growing affluence has moved the

nation's collective psyche onto a neo-nationalist track.

This post-war sense of national pride has yet to jell into any well-defined ideology or social or political movements says Kato, but unless the nation opens its "minds as well as markets" to the outside world, it could harden into "destructive chauvinism," he warns.

An insider's guide to Tibet

Tibetan Review, "the only monthly publication of news, commentary, book reviews and articles on all aspects of Tibet," does not have a particularly wide circulation. But, as it is circulated from its exile, New Delhi headquarters, it is widely read.

It is a serious political source of information for the many Tibetans living in exile and it provides humorous insight into the Tibetan spirit. Tibetans do not pander to anyone.

In a recent book review of *Tibet: A Travel Survival Kit* put out by Lonely Planet in Australia, the reviewer duly commends the great travel diaries of years gone by and bemoans that now in this "dark age of Kali Yuga (chaos) travel books suffice in providing mundane information (e.g. the black market rate for dollars in Lhasa) to the hoards of snooping, diarrhoeac (sic), yidag-like tourists."

Tibet, stereotyped in the West as a nation of monks, does not even take offense at Western stumblings into their religion. One has to wonder just how, in the Tibetan mind, a diarrhetic tourist resembles a *yidag*, a personal meditation deity.

The reviewer even complains a bit about just who is selling Tibet's Buddhism to foreigners. Referring to an evidently much misquoted prophecy, the reviewer suggests that it is really "the invention of one of our hippie lamas wanting to legitimize selling his milk and water Buddhism to naive westerners (sic)."

UNDERCURRENTS

Swapping debt for trees

The Swiss-based World Wildlife Fund is currently negotiating the purchase of US\$100,000 worth of Costa Rica's debt—a capital idea.

By buying the debt at 45 to 75 cents to the dollar—the rate at which the international equity notes are selling on world markets—the WWF, or other donor organizations, will buy, in fact, not \$100,000 dollars worth of debt obligations, but \$133,000 to \$222,000 dollars worth of aid.

That means that if the WWF gives \$100,000 to Costa Rica's creditors and the country's debt is available for, let us say, 50 cents on the dollar, then Costa Rica will agree to spend \$150,000 worth of local currency on a conservation project of the WWF's choosing.

Both the donor organization and the debt-ridden government gain. The donor gets more bang for its investment buck and the government is able to save its

dollar reserves.

Much along the same lines, other Third World nations have begun to think about placing their virgin tropical rain forests in a United Nations trust or establishing a world park—in return for the cancellation of their foreign debts. Considering the potential for default on these sorts of loans, wealthy nations have everything to gain—the environment.

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WORLD MARKETPLACE

WORLD DIARY

Japan understands 'Buy American'

BY CROCKER SNOW, JR.

Fuji, sushi, Sakura, Take-zushi, Ichiban. A half-dozen years ago sushi bars blossomed on the streets of New York City adding a welcome splash of Japan.

Today, Japanese names in New York are quite different. They are now Nomura, Sumitomo, Daiwa and Nippon—not cozy eateries, but giant financial institutions.

The change is symptomatic of a profound turnaround in the status of Japan and the United States. No longer is Japan's impact on America's leading city one of style and taste, but of ownership.

Japan has become in the last quarter-century the world's leading export economy, having shifted from Mikimoto pearls to Noritake china in the early 1960s, to Mitsui ships five years later, to Datsun cars in the 1970s, to Sony video recorders.

Now, in a little more than a year, Japan has suddenly become a nation of buyers, not sellers. And nowhere is this change felt more than in the United States.

Indeed, the two nations have become almost mirror images of each other. As the United States was once the world's richest and most solvent nation with the most surplus of capital, it is now the world's largest debtor. Meanwhile, Japan, on the strength of its continuing trade surplus more than any other single factor, has accumulated surplus capital and quietly assumed the status of the world's largest creditor nation.

The Japanese have lots of money to spend. Their own domestic economy is sluggish, so they are spending more overseas—mostly in the United States.

Last year, US\$64 billion was absorbed by Japanese purchases of US treasury bonds. Now the stock market is attracting Japanese funds. Japanese investments in the market totaled \$5 billion last year. They will rise to \$16 billion this year, according to Shuichi Komori, at Daiwa Securities.

The surge is accelerated by the weakened US dollar: \$1 bought 250 yen two years ago, it buys 150 yen today. That means that Japanese dollar investments are 40 percent cheaper—a deal too good to pass up.

Today, Tokyo is showing signs of becoming the world's foremost capital market. The top 20 Japanese companies measured in total assets include 10 financial services institutions. Nomura Securities has moved from fifth place to second place in a year, ranking only behind Toyota.

"The evidence is clear. Financing is becoming one of Japan's biggest businesses now, surpassing manufacturing," says Canadian Kirk Patterson, a director and co-founder with four Japanese partners of IB Japan, Inc., one of Tokyo's first investor relations firms.

"The Japanese are making more money today managing money than on manufacturing products."

Wall Street is reminded daily of this trend. Sumitomo Bank has purchased a 12.5 percent share of the annual production of the blue chip investment firm, Goldman Sachs. Nippon Life has acquired 13 percent of Shearson Lehman Brothers, a subsidiary of American Express, and has purchased choice chunks of Manhattan real estate.

Some Wall Street bankers and brokers speak condescendingly of the old "yellow peril." Few will say so publicly, not knowing whether they might have minority or even majority Japanese owners the day after tomorrow. Some of the best and brightest Wall Street managers have joined Japanese financial firms in New York during the last year.

Writer Dan Burstein quotes Felix Rohatyn, high-profile senior partner of the investment banking firm Lazard Freres, as saying, "Investment needs to be a two-way street, and the Japanese are not notorious for helping make streets two way." Rohatyn, according to Burstein, worries that the United States may become a junkie, ever more dependent on fixes of Japanese capital. "At the outer extremes of what is happening, you eventually become a colony."

And this after only two hundred years of independence.



With the US dollar tumbling, Japanese traders ring up deals too good to ignore.

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And this after only two hundred years of independence.

PHOTO BY AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

COMMENTARY

Sinking feeling about Reagan

BY ANTHONY WESTELL

By what may prove to be a coincidence of historic importance, Ronald Reagan is declining as a world leader as Mikhail Gorbachev is rising.

The result is a remarkable change in the way in which Western Europe is beginning to view international problems. Interest is focused not on Washington, but on Moscow.

The new view of the world is far from unanimous. Reagan's ability to recover his personal credibility and diplomatic initiative is not entirely written off. And, conservatives traditionally hostile to the Soviet Union argue that Gorbachev is not to be trusted. Even those who want to believe that Soviet communism is changing, fear that Gorbachev may be restrained by the opposition.

If all goes well, Europeans see possibilities far beyond arms control and more exciting than at any time during the past 40 years.

The key is Gorbachev's commitment to democratize Soviet society.

The new openness in the Soviet press, the release of some dissidents, and the reaching out to the West in the February international peace forum, and in interviews and in other statements, Gorbachev at least sounds sincere, almost passionate in his convictions.

The future now looks hopeful, even exciting on three levels.

The first and most immediate level is arms control. Like no other people on earth, Europeans live under the threat of nuclear weapons. As a result, many countries have vocal antinuclear movements, and defense policies are the subject of intense political debate.

Real progress on arms control as the result of Gorbachev's initiatives would lift an enormous burden from Europe's shoulders, and the whole political atmosphere would change.

At a second level, the dream of removing the Iron Curtain and reuniting Europe is within the realm of possibility.

Nobody expects Communist governments to fall, the Berlin Wall to tumble, and borders to open. But democratization in the Soviet Union would surely have to be matched in the Eastern bloc by democratization, more openness and communication with the West, and a gradual normalization of relations as values and beliefs coincide.

Thirdly, although socialist and center left parties in most Western countries are out of office, often in disarray, and rethinking their basic ideas, still alive is the dream of democratic, efficient and liberating socialism as an alternative to capitalism.

The Soviet model has been an appalling advertisement for socialism everywhere. The hope that under Gorbachev the Soviet Union may now be admitting its mistakes and adopting democratic methods opens the prospect of peace and cooperation, if not unity, on the left in Europe and elsewhere.

A considerable reservoir of affection remains in Europe for Reagan as a person, but at this moment in history, the Soviet Union seems to be the country of dynamic change and reform.

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A considerable reservoir of affection remains in Europe for Reagan as a person, but at this moment in history, the Soviet Union seems to be the country of dynamic change and reform.

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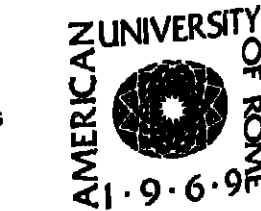
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By Ahmad Shaker

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is to patronize the US-Jordanian trade and investment conference which will be held in New York on 8 June.

Arab Ministers of finance and economy who are members of the Arab Economic Unity Council will meet in Amman on 12 June. Assessment of joint Arab economic progress and the development of economic co-operation will be among topics to be discussed at the meeting.

The undersecretaries of the Arab ministries of education are to hold a meeting in Amman on 22 June on the invitation of Unesco to discuss the future of education in the Arab World.

Mr Hamdi Al Tabba, President of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce visited Saudi Arabia last week and discussed a number of issues, in particular the increasing of trade between Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Jordanian-Greek talks are to be held in Athens next Monday by the prime ministers of both countries. They will discuss political and economic issues including the possibility of loans to finance the five-year development plan in Jordan.

A yellow telephone directory containing citizens telephone numbers and advertisements is to be issued next month in both Arabic and English.

Contacts are being conducted with Syrian Ministry of Industry officials on the holding of a joint Jordan-Syrian products exhibition in Damascus next August.

Minister of Labour Khaleel El Haj Hassan is to head a delegation to Geneva next week to attend meetings of the 73rd round of the International Labour Conference.

The Undersecretary at the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mr Mohammad Al Saqqaf is to visit Cairo by the middle of next month to discuss with Egyptian officials the implementation of a number of resolutions recently made concerning the increase of trade and the establishment of joint companies.

Hosted by the Arab Thought Forum, a special seminar on the rebuilding of Lebanon is to be held in Amman on 27 June. Seminar papers will tackle social, economic, and communal affairs as well as Lebanon's role in the post-war phase.

A farm policy that hurts everyone

By Jonathan Power
Special to The Star

LONDON — The United States' massive sale of subsidized grain to the Soviet Union, the first delivery to be made in June, gives its stand on Japanese industrial trade practices the smell of hypocrisy.

But then no subject is more ridiculed with double standards than the agricultural practices of the industrialized countries — to the cost both of themselves and the rest of the world.

All the talk of major reforms at a recent meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development won't amount to a row of beans unless Western politicians are prepared to be brutally honest with their farm lobby.

Agricultural protectionism is expensive. The United States spends as much as \$4 billion in a single year, the European Community more than \$15 billion in and Japan \$3 billion.

Yet high protection does not produce high farm incomes, a point noted by British economist David Ricardo in 1817.

"The price of corn is not high because a rent is paid," he wrote in a tract opposing Britain's Corn laws "but a rent is paid because corn is high."

The extra revenue from higher prices is lost to rising land prices and rents as farmers bid against one another to acquire the means to produce goods that can be sold at high prices.

Ironically, the biggest winners from current policies are the Soviet Union and East European countries. Without Western subsidies they'd lose \$11 billion a year in their purchase of artificially cheap American and Western European agricultural products.

So entrenched are the farm lobbies in the political systems of the industrialized countries, it is exceedingly difficult to initiate reform.

Moreover, the legacy of past policies weighs heavily upon current ones. Farm interest groups are skilled at defending gains from previous policies. It is difficult to change policy even when it has clearly failed — rather a new policy is grafted on to it.

During the 1970s, improvements in milk yields reduced the cost of dairy products below official support prices. Governments in Western Europe and North America were flooded with milk surpluses.

Spending soared, increasing sixfold in the EC and fivefold in the United States between 1974 and 1984.

Scandinavians go for self criticism

LONDON — Four Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, have been holding a conference this week to discuss their successes and failures in the area of Third World Development.

The conference, The Nordic Conference on Environment and Development, has been examining reports on 14 development projects in Asia and Africa commissioned from independent journalists by the governments of the four countries.

Participants hope to arrive at new ideas for improving their contribution to sustainable Third World Development and developing a greater sensitivity towards the environment.

(Panos)

But instead of lowering prices and passing on the benefits of technical progress to consumers, governments resorted to attempting to limit the amount of milk sold at guaranteed prices.

Western agricultural policies are transferring income from consumers and taxpayers to farmers and landowners. Moreover, they are reducing national income.

Subsidies encourage farmers to use inputs inefficiently. Artificially high food prices mislead producers into using too many resources to produce food.

In a wider context, these policies are undermining the development of outward-oriented policies in Third World countries. It is a dampener on their agricultural investment and research policies.

The prices of tropical products, from cocoa to coffee to animal foodstuffs, all are depressed. In a single year Western agricultural protectionism costs the Third World \$8 billion in lost export revenue.

Over the years the industrialized countries have played at finding an answer to the woes of the Third World. One well-worn track is international commodity agreements that seek, by holding back production, to raise the prices of crops like sugar, coffee and rubber.

Since 1931 there have been 13 commodity agreements. Only four still exist, and it is questionable whether any even stabilize prices, much less raise them.

Another idea is so-called compensatory finance, adopted by both the International Monetary Fund and the EC.

These aim to recompense Third World producers every time key commodities suffer a significant price fall. They have both been quite useful, if relatively modest in comparison with the need.

The industrialized countries also have introduced schemes giving access to imports from developing countries at reduced tariffs. The three main ones are the Generalized System of Preferences, Europe's Lomé Agreement and the United States' Caribbean Basin Initiative.

But in all of them the benefits have been limited, partly because for those goods that could be really competitive the rules are too tightly drawn. In the case of the Caribbean countries, the sugar quotas to the United States have been reduced dramatically.

Finally, embarrassed by their surpluses, the industrialized countries have introduced large-scale food aid programmes. While useful in case of famine, such as in Ethiopia and Sudan, over time

they have acted as a serious disincentive to Third World farmers.

The fact remains that the only way really to help the Third World is to have a fully open, competitive agricultural system. This alone would be worth double the present aid programmes of industrialized countries.

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3 M	7 5/16	3 9/16	8 7/16	3 7/8	8 1/4	3 11/16	8 3/4
6 M	7 9/16	3 5/8	8 9/16	3 7/8	8 3/8	3 11/16	8 13/16
9 M	7 15/16	3 11/16	8 5/8	4 15/16	8 7/16	3 11/16	8 7/8
12 M	8 1/8	3 3/4	8 13/16	4	8 5/8	3 3/4	8 15/16
2 Years	8 7/8	4 1/16					
3 Years	9 1/8	4 1/4					
4 Years	9 1/4	4 3/4					
5 Years	9 3/8	5 1/8					

Source: Finance and Credit Corporation

GOLD IN JORDAN

AMMAN (Star) — Prices on Tuesday 26 May 1987 were as follows:

18 ct., JD 3.750 per gramme
21 ct., JD 4.300 per gramme
24 ct., JD 5.100 per gramme
One kilogramme (9999)
Ounce, JD 158.000
Gold Sterling, JD 35.600
(Central Bank)
Rashadi Pound, JD 31.000
(Seven grammes)

Source: Yousef Abu Sara, Jewellers, Amman.

EXCHANGE RATES

	buy	sell
US dollar	.396	.398
Sterling pound	.580	.585
German mark	.1880	.1875
French franc	.055	.056
Swiss franc	.220	.230
Dutch guilder	.165	.167
Italian lire (1000)	.255	.260
Swedish krona	.052	.053
Saudi riyal	.084	.0895
Kuwaiti dinar	1.210	1.220
UAE dirham	.091	.092
Egyptian pound	.180	.185
Syrian lira	.01075	.01100
Iraqi dinar	.250	.257
Omani riyal	.880	.870

Source: National Jordan Exchange Company

Dollar rises after holiday weekend, gold down

LONDON (AP) — The US dollar rose against all major foreign currencies except the Canadian dollar in early European trading Tuesday as markets resumed regular business following the holiday weekend in Britain and the United States. Gold prices dropped.

Currency dealers in Frankfurt said trading was quiet while the markets waited for direction.

"There's no real reason why the dollar is higher this morning," said a trader at a major US bank in Frankfurt.

The dollar continued its rise against the Japanese yen for the fourth consecutive trading day, hitting its highest levels in more than a month.

In Tokyo, where trading ends before Europe's business day begins, the dollar rose to a closing 141.85 yen from Monday's 140.93. Later, in London, it was quoted at 142.60 yen.

Other dollar rates at mid-morning, compared with late Monday's rates:

- 1.7900 West German Marks, up from 1.7820
- 1.4745 Swiss Francs, up from 1.4650
- 5.9925 French Francs, up from 5.9665
- 2.0161 Dutch Guilders, up from 2.0075
- 1.294.00 Italian Lire, up from 1.290.625
- 1.3445 Canadian Dollars, down from 1.3450.

In London, the dollar rose against the British pound. It cost \$1.9605 to buy one pound, cheaper than 1.9675 in late European trading Monday when British markets were closed for the bank holiday and Friday's London closing of 1.9715.

Gold opened in London at a bid price of \$462.70 a troy ounce Tuesday and at mid-morning the city's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$459.55 both prices are down from late Friday's bid price of \$463.80.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$459.10 down from \$466.00 late Monday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold fell \$2.45 to close at a bid \$462.28.

Silver was quoted in London Tuesday at a bid price of \$5.07 a troy ounce, down from Friday's \$5.40.

UN study helps Third World oil deals

UNITED NATIONS, (OPECNA) — The UN has published a study designed to help developing countries negotiate oil exploration deals with foreign companies.

Produced by the UN Centre on Transnational Corporations, the study provides a comprehensive guide to different types of contracts involved in oil exploration. It also analyses alternative options for taxing petroleum and sharing profits between governments and companies.

The study contains a description of financial flows involved in petroleum exploration, development and production, as well as different types of fiscal devices such as royalties and production taxes, income tax, north-sea type special taxes, windfall profits or excise duty schemes, production-sharing contracts and resource rent taxes.

The document, the latest in the centre's advisory study series, is designed as a practical guide for policy-makers in developing countries and government officials responsible for conducting negotiations with transnational oil exploration corporations.

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Trading stable, industrials in demand

By Mamdouh El Ghaly
Star Financial Market Analyst

SHARE PRICES fluctuated this week while the shares of industrial sector enjoyed the highest demand particularly the Jordan Silicochemicals Co. The volume of trading remained stable.

935,000 shares were handled at the market value of JD 1,750,000 divided among 1,780 contracts, a decrease of 5.4 per cent compared to last week.

The daily handling average came to JD 440,000 with a deviation of 12.7 per cent or 3.2 per cent of total around this average, thus indicating stability at the market.

The share of 71 companies were handled from which 33 companies gained including:

- 1- Arab Pharmaceutical Industry closing at JD 2.120 up from JD2.030
- 2- Arab Aluminium Industry closing at JD 1.920 up from JD 1.880
- 3- National Steel Industry closing at JD 2.380 up from JD 2.300

19 companies lost including:

- 1- Al Izdihar Insurance Co. closing at JD .770 down from JD .950
- 2- General Mining Co. closing at JD 1.370 down from JD 1.500
- 3- General Insurance Co. closing at JD 1.250 down from JD 1.350
- 4- National Insurance Co. closing at JD 1.250 down from JD 1.330
- 5- Poultry & Cattle closing at JD .750 down from JD .800

19 Companies had no change in their share values.

In the over-the-counter market, more than 235,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 110,000.

Trading in the regular market was distributed among the sector according to the following percentages:

Sectors	Market share	Last week's share
Bank	18.3%	73%
Industry	74.7%	24.8%
Services	1.7%	8%
Insurance	5.3%	1.5%

Prominent firms whose shares were traded, by sector

Banks (out of 21 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Arab Bank Ltd.	22.4%	4.1%
2- National Portfolio	15.2%	2.8%
3- Bank of Jordan	12.8%	2.3%

Industrials (out of 30 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Jordan Silicochemicals Co.	52.8%	39.4%
2- Arab Aluminium Industry	14.6%	10.9%
3- National Steel Industry	8.4%	4.8%
4- Textiles Factorles	5.9%	4.5%
5- Intermediary petrochemical Industries	4.8%	3.6%

Services (out of 5 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Jordan Electricity Co.	34.4%	.6%
Insurance (out of 12 traded)	Share of sector	Share of market
1- Jordan French Insurance Co.	73.6%	3.9%

WEEKLY AVERAGE

Date	Bank	Insurance	Services	Industries	Average
19-5	+6%	zero	+1%	-8%	-3%
20-5	+4%	-1.8%	-6%	-0.3%	-2%
23-5	-4%	-6%	+6%	+5%	zero
24-5	+6%	-2.1%	-9%	+1.2%	+3%
Total					-2%

The forgotten war in Mozambique

By Jörn Ruby
Special to The Star

MORUMBALA, Mozambique — With truckload upon truckload of international food aid halted outside the major ports of Mozambique for fear of attacks by rebel forces, millions of people in this former Portuguese colony face starvation. At the same time, thousands of people are fleeing every week to neighbouring countries to escape the civil war and its devastating effects on one of the poorest countries in the world.

According to United Nations sources, about one million of Mozambique's 13 million people have been displaced by the war, most seeking refuge — from both fighting and famine — in Zimbabwe and Malawi. Yet behind the lines of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) rebels, life seems calm and food appears plentiful, with fields full of maize, rice and manioc, and orchards rich with citrus fruits and bananas.

For two weeks recently, I travelled with the Renamo guerrillas, riding on a motorcycle with General Callisto Meque, supreme commander of Zambezia province, north of the Zambezi river and adjacent to Malawi. Having crossed rivers in dugout canoes and reached in sweltering heat for several days, I met up with Callisto at night at a small base in central Zambezia.

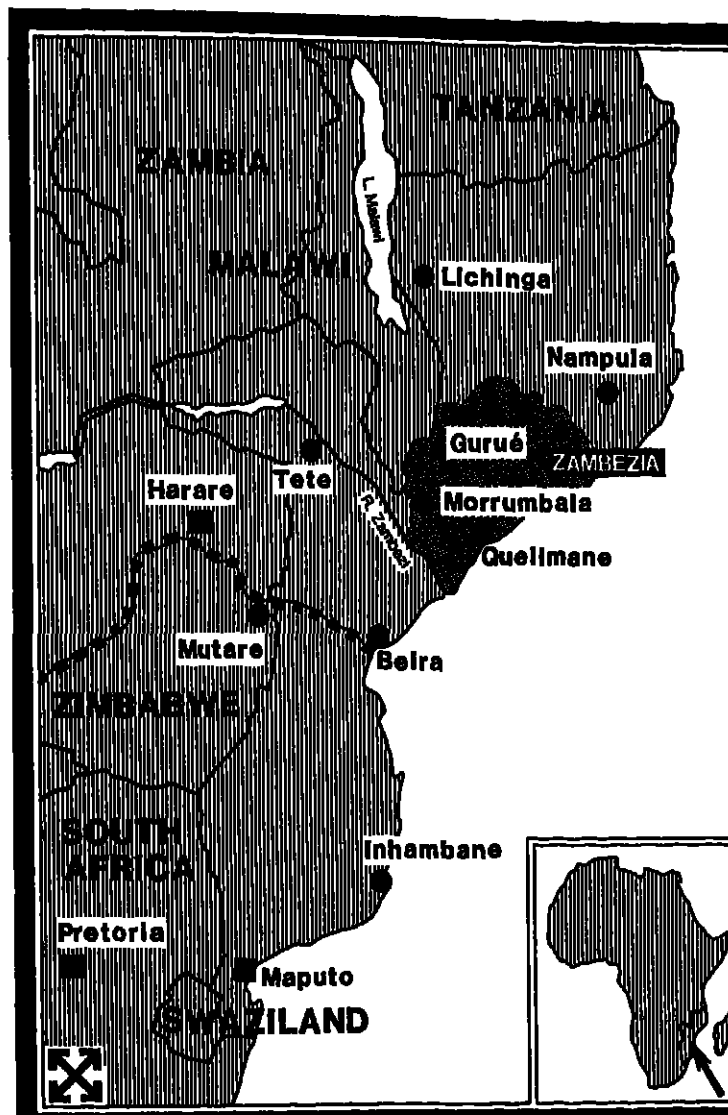
Callisto, 28, is one of 10 generals in the Renamo organization, which is fighting the Frelimo government led by President Joaquim Chissano. Chissano, long-time foreign minister, took over the leadership when President Sároré Machel was killed in an air crash last 18 October. Established in 1976 as a counter-insurgency force to stop guerrillas infiltrating what was then white-ruled Rhodesia, Renamo was the brainchild of Rhodesian intelligence.

After Rhodesia became independent Zimbabwe in 1980, Renamo was adopted by South Africa. Pretoria trained guerrillas in guerrilla and sent them into Mozambique in a bid to destabilize Robert Mugabe's Marxist government, which had obtained independence from Portugal in 1975. In 1984, South African President Pieter W. Botha signed a peace accord with Mugabe, agreeing to stop training and supplying Renamo if Mozambique would expel guerrillas of the African National Congress using the country as a base to fight the apartheid regime.

But since then, the war in Mozambique has intensified, with the government in Maputo insisting that South Africa continues to supply arms and give logistical support to Renamo. The Government condemns the rebels as "terrorists." But while Renamo historically was a puppet force used by Rhodesia and South Africa, new evidence suggests the movement may be finding an identity of its own.

Indiscriminate acts of terror, mass killings and attacks on military and economic targets have become more frequent. In mid-February this year, a 500-strong Renamo force under the command of General Callisto Meque surrounded and destroyed the factories in Gurue, dealing a blow to Mozambique's economy. Since 1980, the value of exports has declined from \$250 million to \$80 million.

Frequently, the 245 km road, rail and pipeline "corridor" from Mozambique to Zimbabwe is attacked and cut by the rebels, despite the presence of some 12,000 Zimbabwean troops to guard it. The Zimbabwean army has occupied major parts of the country, forcing people to flee to the major cities and leaving mass hunger there. "This is a civil war," Callisto said, "solve



New Renamo recruits undergo tough training



General Callisto Meque — Renamo military commander

the problem of the war, and we will solve the problem of hunger."

Refugees from Gurue who arrived at the port city of Quelimane said there was fierce fighting and looting. A tea factory manager, Assirwathem Solomon, was held captive for three days by Renamo; he described the force as "highly disciplined, skilled, and well stocked with canned foods, meat, medicines and cigarettes," all items in short supply in Mozambique. "Some people were happy when they came in," Solomon told reporters in Quelimane, "because they took clothes and food and gave them to people."

From my own observations, Renamo appears to be a tough but disciplined army. Persistent reports say, by contrast, that many men in the Frelimo armed forces are disillusioned by lack of payment, uniforms and even ammunition. A Frelimo infantryman earns the equivalent of \$3 a month, which often is not paid on time; Renamo says many Frelimo deserters have joined its ranks.

Others, they say, masquerade as rebels, looting villages in remote war zones, and in some famine areas cream off 15 per cent of food aid delivered by foreign agencies. Diplomats in Maputo say the level of support for Renamo from Pretoria remains a constant but unspectacular trickle. Said a Renamo political leader, "A civil war creates many strange alliances. It's true we have been supported by South Africa. But since the 1984 Nkomati peace accord, all support has stopped."

"When Maputo keeps maintaining that we are still supported by South Africa, it is because they want to internationalize the conflict. Without international aid they cannot stop us. We consider the conflict a national one: It is a civil war," said the leader, who asked to remain anonymous. "After the war of independence, Frelimo betrayed the revolution and the people of Mozambique. They forced people into labour camps and established themselves as the only party, depriving the people of the free elections they had promised."

Travelling across Zambezia with Callisto, we stopped in many villages and individual homesteads. A local chief named Marka said, "Under Frelimo, we were forced away from our homes and had to work under surveillance. All problems were solved by the military. Now we sort out our own problems."

I heard farmers, teachers and Portuguese expatriates express similar sentiments. Callisto, who originally trained to be a teacher, said, "Frelimo apparently never understood that Communism is incompatible with the African mind. They replaced the 'regulos', the traditional village chiefs, with commissars, and thought that they could implement their policy through forced persuasion. In Quelimane, they rounded up 34 regulos, said they were counter-revolutionaries, and executed them. But people rebelled against the system."

Behind Renamo lines, the 'Regulo' is a key figure, the intermediary between the military and the people. When an area is "liberated" by Renamo, the regulos are summoned, and discussions begin on how to reorganize things. State farms are being redistributed to individuals, schools and administration centres are being established, and local militias organized.

Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama recently presented to Maputo his conditions for negotiating an end to the war: immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign troops from Mozambique and acceptance of the principle of free elections.

The inevitability of Soviet participation

THE SOVIET participation in the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East has in itself become a controversial issue in Israel and the United States even when the convening of the conference is becoming increasingly uncertain. This is because Israel and its supporters in Washington are trying to make the best of the affair, either to sabotage the peace process or solicit maximum concessions from the Soviets.

The price, however, is too high to be accepted. Apart from its being humiliating for a superpower whose world leverage should be carefully taken into account when examining the chances of success for a solution to any regional or international problem, it amounts to direct interference in Soviet internal affairs.

The Israelis and their American friends want Moscow to restore diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv before one single step towards peace is taken. More exacerbating is their demand for free Soviet Jewish emigration, as if Soviet Jews are Israeli citizens carrying Russian passports.

The Soviet Union has made it clear that any rapprochement with Israel must be linked to progress towards real peace. In the meantime, it indicated that while it will allow all Jews willing to join their relatives abroad to leave, it refuses to discuss a purely internal matter with a foreign power or make the issue subject to political bargaining and even blackmail.

The Israelis and Americans are of course aware that no comprehensive permanent peace can be reached in the Middle East without active Soviet involvement. Their unacceptable conditions for Soviet participation in the proposed international conference are thus tantamount to a rejection of peace itself.

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Independence day

JORDAN'S INDEPENDENCE anniversary, which was marked last Monday, provides an opportunity for an in-depth review of the country's achievements in the past four decades since independence was won on 25 May 1946. Indeed, a careful review would make any Jordanian pride himself in being a member of a young state which is led by a courageous leadership. Together, the people and the leadership had managed to overcome enormous obstacles, resist all kinds of pressures, and embarked on a successful development drive whose outcome had exceeded all expectations.

For, with limited resources that have been made even more meagre by the loss of the West Bank, Jordan has nevertheless scored remarkable growth rates unmatched in Third World countries. The huge challenges posed by the Israeli occupation have never weakened for a moment the Jordanian people's will and determination to continue the national build-up and at the same time play a distinguished role in the defence of the Arab homeland against attempts to impose outside hegemony.

Jordanians' unyielding efforts to modernize their country and achieve high growth rates have been matched by a relentless world-wide campaign to reach an honourable Middle East peace that, above anything else, fulfils the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people. Jordan's sincere peace endeavour has won the appreciation and admiration of all peace-lovers and made it the focal point of all those who aspire to contribute to a just and durable peace in this volatile region.

It is, after all, this unique harmony between the leader and the people that has made Jordan what it is now.

Uneasy moments

WHEN IN 1985, Mrs. Indira Gandhi was cut down by bullets, the whole world reacted with shock and astonishment. And that was not surprising. For, Mrs. Gandhi was a respected stateswoman and a politician with an international reputation. The Indian parliament, providing for the continuity of leadership, promptly swore in Mr. Rajiv Gandhi — a former pilot — as the next prime minister.

So far, Mr. Rajiv — albeit he lacks the shrewdness and political charisma of his mother, and is yet to fully comprehend the complexities of ruling India, a vast and diverse nation of 800 million people — has set out to bring about tremendous changes in the Indian society. However, recent escalation in communal violence proves that the problem of intolerance which apparently permeates the Indian nation and society is certainly going to test Rajiv Gandhi's ability to provide stable leadership.

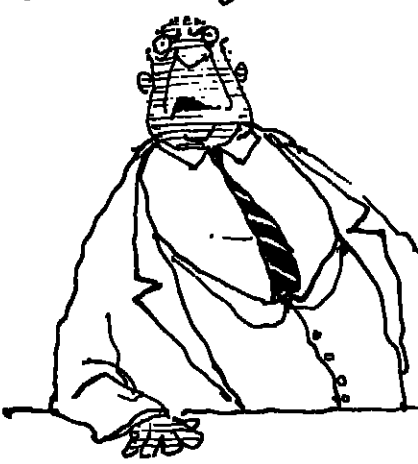
We deeply sympathize with Mr. Rajiv, because all the problems — both domestic and international — have fallen on his lap at the same time. Domestically, he is yet out of the woods in what could be termed a constitutional clash with the Indian president. Rather reluctantly, and to curb the criminal excesses of the hard-bellied secessionist elements in Punjab, he has imposed direct central rule on the Sikh state. In addition, the endemic violent clashes between Muslims and Hindus, which is still claiming many more lives, is enough to dampen the spirit of any leader.

The international scene also presents a murky picture. India has an uneasy relationship with its Muslim neighbour Pakistan. The Sri Lanka government's drive to 'tame' the Tamil Tigers, attempts to carve out a state, indirectly affects the political environment in India. The Tamils, locked in a brutal confrontation with Sri Lankan troops, are direct descendants of the inhabitants of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu.

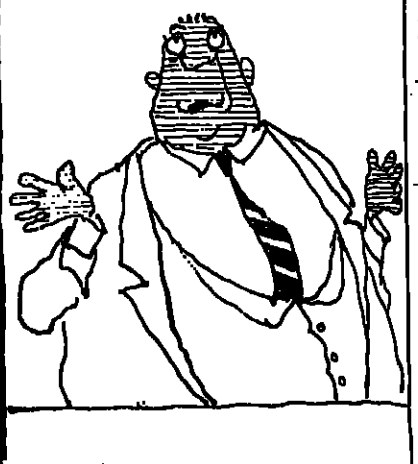
India's present headaches have their roots embedded in the complex and diverse nature of the country. The roots also touch the manner and way in which politics is practised in India. As is often alleged, most politicians, just to boost and whet their selfish egos are in the habit of manipulating ignorant people into a state of frenzy which often culminates in violence. Thus, the authorities, apart from arresting those directly involved in the killings and destruction, should also hunt out those indirectly responsible.

Definitely, while Indians doubt whether any of their leaders can create a state of Utopia, they should also not lose sight of the fact that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi cannot create a harmonious and tranquil society without their full co-operation. In a speech calling for calm in Meerut and New Delhi he stated: 'Let good sense prevail... Keep peace. Let your hearts be filled with love not hatred.' We wish all Indians will take heed and note that building a sound, progressive nation and society rests firmly on these ideals.

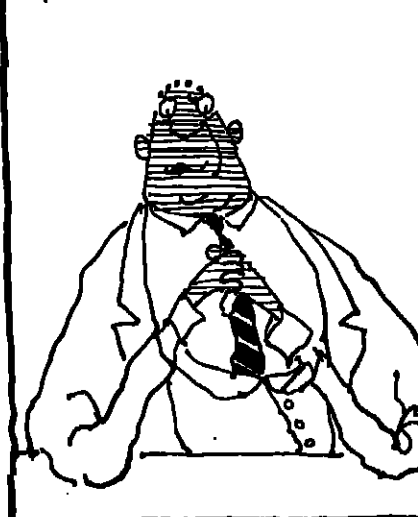
I would never
discriminate against
someone just



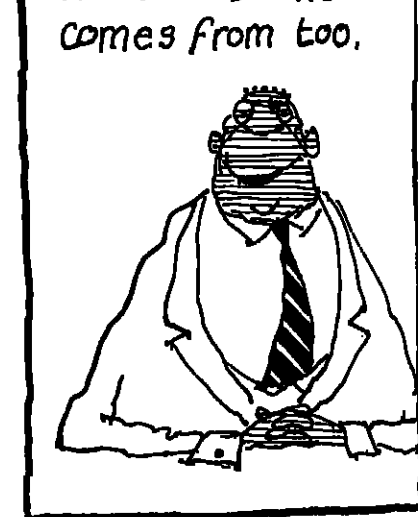
because of the
colour of his skin



I would want to know



what tribe he
comes from too.



Yes, it can survive

To the editor:

WE HAVE read with interest the article written by Mr. George Saig under the title "Can it Survive?" in The Star of 7 May 1987, and while we believe in re-assuring Mr. Saig, our shareholders, readers and the general public that the Arab Centre for Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals can and will survive, we must re-assess certain facts:

1. That the Arab Centre for Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals was established with the objective of integrating with and complementing existing Jordanian and Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturers. Thus the building and erecting of a Capsule Plant falls within the main objectives of the company and partly fulfils the strategic ambitions of the Arab World for drug independence.

2. That the Company has established itself as a local industry and its current markets include Arab countries in addition to those in the West and in the Third World.

But how does this materialize and reflect on the company's financial standing? Here we must point out to some financial information which may lead to better judgement.

While the various figures indicated by Mr. Saig may be right, he failed to explain why these figures stand as they are; not due to the lack of knowledge, as all his queries were answered, hence we will have to outline them again.

1. Inflation of the Assets cost reflected from the fact that the value of dollar had appreciated dramatically while the company was undertaking its Capsule Plant Project thus resulting in an additional cost of JD 240,000 that was not reserved for in the feasibility study.

2. The international price of capsules has spiralled down due to excessive production output in addition to cut-throat competition — especially in our area. This has affected the cash flow and the profits significantly.

3. The above reasons have affected the Company's current assets particularly cash and receivable accounts and constitute a loss of profits amounting to JD 240,000 which will be 'extinguished' during the years of operation hence affecting the profit and loss statement.

We find it surprising that the writer failed to compare the financial situation of our Company with similar companies in the country, some of which are with longer history and have witnessed the boom years in the economy, or is it because our situation is comparable or probably more favourable?

If, for arguments sake, we assume Mr. Saig's analysis to be true, then his conclusions to what the new board of directors should find as a plausible solution; that is merge with another company, totally contradicts his previous statements in the same article. Would it not be true that nobody would want to merge with a company in the state he describes? As for raising new capital, this is to be invested in the Company's projects and not the Capsule Plant; and one of these projects is currently near completion. Such projects will bolster the Company's financial standing and direct it into profitability and success.

Finally, we must thank Mr. Saig for his interest and assure him that the Arab Centre for Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals can and will survive. We do not deny that the situation is difficult, but with diligence and faith we disagree with you that the Company is doomed and that the previous situations and performance are only a summer's cloud.

The Management
Amman

The divide that led to the intervention

By G.K. Nair
Special to The Star

SWA, Fiji — Shortly after winning Fiji's general election on 12 April, the new Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra went on radio and urged the 714,000 people of this South Pacific nation to give his government the opportunity to show its mettle. "Will you judge the government before we even start, or will you have the chance to perform? He even asked, appealing to all in Fiji not to be misled by a few who are bent on destroying democracy and stability in our peace-loving nation."

His call apparently fell on deaf ears.

Four weeks after the election, following a series of anti-government demonstrations, a handful of Fijian army officers marched into the parliament building and ousted 62-year-old Bavadra and his Indian majority cabinet. Street demonstrations had started shortly after Fiji found itself with a government dominated by members of the Indian community for the first time in its history — and an uneasy racial status quo that had existed throughout the century suddenly appeared threatened.

Even since the first Indians arrived in Fiji in the late 19th century and began to make their mark in business and commerce, it was accepted in this former British colony that while Indians might dominate business, the Fijians would have political control, with traditional chiefs playing a leading role. The picture changed in April when a coalition of the Fiji Labour Party and the National Federation Party wrested power from the 23-year-old Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, which had ruled since independence in 1970. The election gave the coalition 28 seats in the 32-member parliament and installed a Fijian "commoner" as Prime Minister for the first time, breaking long tradition that the post be held by a Fijian chief.

The demonstrations in major towns expressed Fijian fears. Placards read, "Fiji belongs to Fijians," "Stop this Indian government," and "Fiji is now a little India." In Suva, the capital, protest marches presented to Governor-General Ratu Sir Kamisese Ganilau a petition signed by 23,000 Fijians urging him to change the constitution to guarantee the country would be ruled by Fijians. Ganilau urged Fijians to recognize that in established democracies changes in government were accepted without rancour. "Any attempt to destabilize the coalition government could affect the peace of this country abroad," he warned.

According to analysts here, the prime fear was that the Bavadra cabinet, with seven Indian members to six Fijians, might attempt to change the country's 1970 constitution and remove the entrenched control of land

by Fijians. Under the constitution, 83 per cent of land is restricted to indigenous people. The remainder is divided into freehold and Crown land available for lease to Indians and other non-Fijian ethnic groups. It was largely the land issue which in recent years had led to a growing exodus of Indians from Fiji, a nation of some 300 tropical islands of which about 100 are inhabited.

Since the first Indians arrived as indentured labourers in 1879, the community has steadily grown. By 1981, Indians made up 50.7 per cent of the population and despite migration in recent years they remain the largest single community. According to an official census last August, the population consisted of 347,000 Indians, 330,000 Fijians and 37,000 of other races. Up to this year, Indians were migrating at a rate of some 300 a month, many to Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Indians say reasons for the exodus are lack of access to land, the high cost of education and general lack of job opportunities in a recession-hit economy. Earlier this year, there were also complaints of growing inter-community tension and reports of attacks on Indian business premises by gang of Fijian youths. "The situation has changed," said an Indian businessman in Suva. "It's not like a decade ago. We don't attribute attacks on Indian businesses to a general anti-Indian sentiment, but it scares us."

Said another Indian businessman, "The local people are good and have been friendly with us since we came to this country. It is politics that is sowing the seeds of ill-feeling and antagonism in the people." Some Indians are rich. They run large supermarkets in the main towns; almost all private bus operators are Indians; others own hotels, restaurants and rice mills. In Suva and towns such as Nadi, Lautoka and Nausori, hotels serve Indian dishes; textile stores sell saris; and Patels, LaIs and other Indian families run duty-free shops selling electronic items, gold and other luxury goods.

Indians own the largest number of Mercedes automobiles in Fiji, and many live in large villas in the most affluent suburbs.

Those working in Fiji's sugar-cane farms and mills, however, are generally poor. Most live in tin-roofed shacks, and when hurricane warnings are sounded, they have to take refuge in nearby school and church buildings. Said an Indian farm worker, "We don't have money to send our children for higher education, and what education they do get does not fetch them a job. The land laws are the big problem for us. We live in shacks because we have no right to land ownership."

Observers here said they did not believe the Bavadra government's election would have any effect on the rate of Indian migration. Any change in the laws relating to land would need a constitutional amendment, they said. This would not be possible because under Fiji's byzantine electoral system no party could muster the two-thirds majority in the House of Representatives required to approve a change. In any case, veto powers vested with Fiji's Council of Chiefs could block any legislation threatening Fijian lands and institutions.

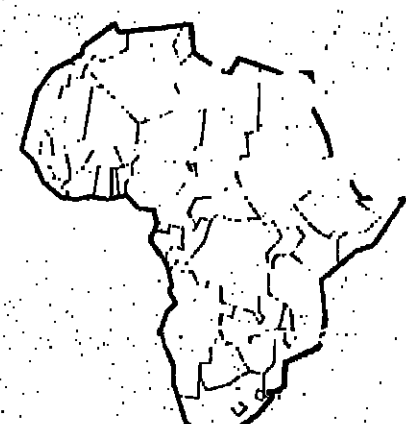
Fijian demands for even greater constitutional protection of their rights were criticized by a prominent member of one of the country's leading Fijian clans. "I think it is stupid as much as childish, and shows short-sightedness which will eventually lead to the destruction of a nation," he said. Observers agree that racial antagonism has undoubtedly been growing in Fiji.

The president of the Fiji Nationalist Party, Sakeasi Butadroka, was recently quoted as saying, "The Fiji parliament should have only Fijian members. He advocated a 'thinning process,' a systematic repatriation of Indians," noting that "Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and India are all ruled by the indigenous people."

There had been rumours here of foreign involvement to destabilize the Bavadra government, which had pledged to follow a policy of strict non-alignment. Bavadra, a doctor and a relative newcomer to politics, committed Fiji to a nuclear-free Pacific and said he would ban visits by nuclear warships. In Washington, a spokesman for the US Defence Department said such a policy might infringe upon movement of American military vessels and that might adversely affect those countries which have military security pacts with the United States — such as Fiji.

Some newspapers in Fiji recently carried reports suggesting that the United States planned to try to destabilize the new government, but a spokesman for the US embassy in Suva denied this. During election campaigning, Alliance newspaper advertisements claimed the Labour Party and National Federation party had "a secret plan" for Fiji and that they would follow a leftist path that eventually would turn the country into "a very different place. Behind its present benign countenance is a party committed to the sort of active non-alignment — that would place Fiji alongside India, Zimbabwe and Cuba," the Alliance claimed.

G K Nair is a freelance journalist based in Suva who reports on Fijian and South Pacific issues.



Kenya, Uganda — sour relations

DOWN IN East Africa, a situation, which completely undermines the concept of African unity is rearing its ugly head between the region's two giants — Uganda and Kenya. It has involved accusations and counter-accusations, with each country claiming the other was out to undermine it.

In the case of Uganda, it has accused Kenya of launching a xenophobic drive against Ugandan citizens resident in Kenya. It has also charged that Kenya is out to 'disorganize' Uganda's foreign trade by blocking its only access to the sea — the Kenyan port of Mombasa. This step, could affect the foreign currency earning capacity of Uganda by withholding products like coffee — which accounts for about 98 per cent of exports — from the world market.

So far, Kenyan officials have categorically denied sabotaging the Ugandan economy. Rather, they assert that they are complying with the directives and requests made by Ugandan officials who wanted a clamp down on smuggling routes.

What then are the real facts and motives behind the souring of relations between these two neighbouring countries? Remotely, Uganda, which is still going through a harrowing period of 'recovery' after the era of genocide, abuse of power and human degradation which characterized the Idi Amin and ex-president Milton Obote rule, has fears that Kenya may be granting sanctuary to the supporters of these former leaders. These followers are yet to come into terms with the Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, and thus could use Kenya as a base to launch 'comeback' attacks so as to rock the boat of stabilization in Uganda.

Internal Kenyan political developments could be another factor. President Arap Moi in his recent moves to stamp out internal opposition, took an 'unAfrican' decision of getting rid of foreigners in Kenya. This involved raids on foreign elements which resulted in the death of a Ugandan teacher in police custody. Uganda has reacted by calling for its national to come back home.

It is apparent that the personality of the Ugandan president makes Kenya's Arap Moi feel uneasy. President Museveni, a former guerrilla leader — until his National Resistance Army marched triumphantly into the Ugandan capital of Kampala — is a leader whose candour in speech making proves that, he entertains no diplomatic niceties and often calls a spade a spade. He has made Kenya — a very pro-Western nation — suspicious by becoming involved with Cuba, Libya and North Korea. Of course, Arap Moi feels uncomfortable at having such a left-leaning element on his doorstep.

The leaders of Uganda and Kenya may have personal ambitions to satisfy. But African countries have moved into the third decade of post-independence era! Political maturity and selfless devotion to 'togetherness' on the continent should now be the watchword. African unity needs to be practised, and not only be confined to rhetoric speeches in the OAU halls in Addis Ababa.

A dereliction of democracy

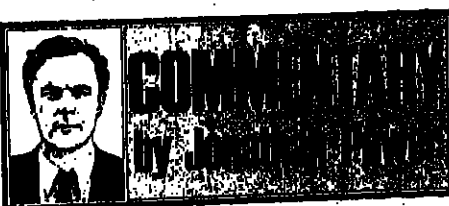
LONDON — The British government recently appointed what it hopes will be its first governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson. His job, politically described, is to pave the way for the reintegration of the city state into mainland China in 1997. But the prime job description and Wilson's behaviour in his first month in office suggest his job is to smooth the jagged edges of those parts of the British legacy with which the Chinese are uncomfortable.

The capitalist economy, apparently, they tolerate since it is a source of much-needed foreign exchange, economic development and inventiveness. But democracy is another matter. It threatens to undermine the tight political control of the Communist Party.

In his inaugural speech, Wilson made it clear that Britain was not going to use the remaining years of its tenure to do anything but would disrupt the status quo. Change would not disrupt the steady progress we have been making, not the stability which we have achieved.

It is amusing that Britain in 1987, when it was the head of the world, was not a possession of the British for the first time in its history. It was a 'legislative council' that can only give advice, and is not even directly elected. It remains fettered by laws that would not have passed muster 100 years ago. Only recently, a press law was introduced which provides fines or up to two years imprisonment for publishing 'false news' which is likely to cause alarm to the public.

China itself is at a turning point. Within its own body politic there beats an impulse toward a more democratic way — and it probably beats within at least part of the personality of China's political leader Deng Xiaoping. One can only surmise this from the brief period of liberalization following the death of



In every other colony they ruled, the British left a legacy of free thought, free opinion and free political expression. Yet if a poll conducted by the South China Morning Post is anything to go by, they have not bothered in Hong Kong. Only six per cent of those interviewed favoured the direct election of legislators, and 62 per cent opposed any direct election.

While it is true in some parts of the former British Empire, particularly in Africa, democracy has had a hard time surviving, in most countries it is a vigorous plant. Even in Africa, it is fair to say, it remains what a majority of those who have gone to school aspire to. Presumably, the British all along have chosen to rule Hong Kong in China's shadow. But what a dereliction of duty this is. China should never have been given the chance to swallow the economic benefits of capitalism without the political.

China itself is at a turning point. Within its own body politic there beats an impulse toward a more democratic way — and it probably beats within at least part of the personality of China's political leader Deng Xiaoping. One can only surmise this from the brief period of liberalization following the death of

Mao Zedong in 1976. Within two years, hundreds of prisoners were released and rehabilitated. Several million people had their reputations and jobs restored. The "Democracy and Human Rights Movement" began and wall posters were published. Unofficial publications were printed and were even tolerated.

Amnesty International published a major report on Chinese abuses and found that the Chinese government agreed with its findings. In 1978, a new constitution was enacted and in 1979 seven new laws revising the criminal statutes were submitted for approval to the Fifth National People's Congress. Citizen's rights were now protected. Yet, as suddenly as the new dawn broke, the shutters began to close. The same year wall posters were banned; so were books 'opposed to socialism.' Human rights activists were arrested and so it has gone on, right to the recent forced resignation of the liberal-minded Communist Party general secretary, Hu Yaobang.

Amnesty International is preparing a new report very different in tone from the one published in 1978. Now the Chinese government is seen as an impediment, not an ally.

Outsiders, even experts, do not seem to have a detailed explanation for the violent tides of the past decade, nor for how one personality, Deng Xiaoping, has presided over such sharp swings in the pendulum. Clearly something is trying to break out from the strait-jacket of Marxist-Leninism within both the soul of China and the mind of Deng.

NATO warns over dependence on Gulf oil

By Dennis R Chaplin
Special to The Star

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Although North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries have been feeling the transient benefits of lower oil prices, long-term fears remain that the alliance will become excessively dependent on Arab oil.

Caution against over-reliance on oil from the Gulf has been sounded by researchers at NATO's Economics Directorate in Brussels, who have been keeping a close watch on world oil developments and their effects on the alliance.

Directorate analyst Christopher Wilkinson calculates that the recent fall in oil prices generated savings to NATO members equivalent to 1.2 per cent of the combined 1986 budgets of the 12 European Community nations — some \$21 billion.

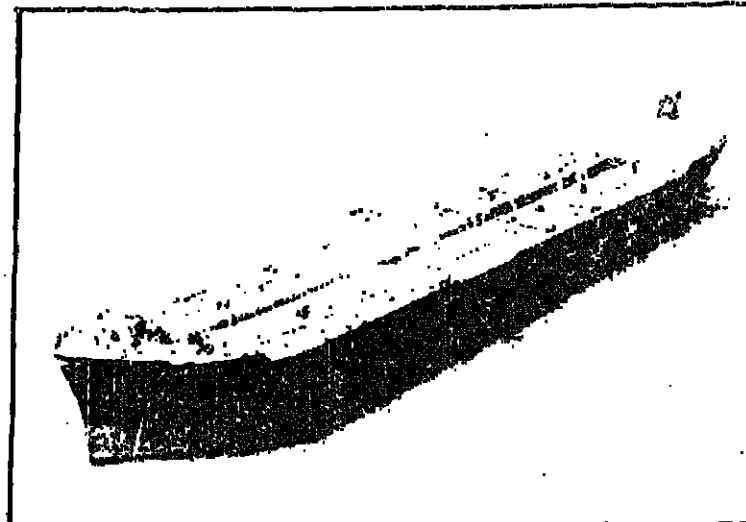
Individually, the picture has varied. Some NATO members are net energy exporters for which the sector beefs up their Gross Domestic Product; thus the price slump meant that crude producers Britain and Norway lost out.

In general terms, though, the Directorate believes that from the perspective of NATO defence planning, lower oil prices have improved economic prospects for the alliance as a whole, meaning that increased resources will be made available for defence.

NATO has always kept a wary eye on oil availability, since its bulk supply would determine victory or defeat in any Central European war.

The Central European Pipeline System, covering some 4,400 miles (7,000 km) of underground pipelines, 60 bulk storage depots, 30 refineries and 25 national depots, needs a great deal of fuel to service NATO's 100 or so major military bases in Western Europe.

Both the NATO Petroleum Planning Committee and the United States Department of Energy's Office of International Affairs remain extremely nervous over oil



An oil tanker in the Gulf waters

supply vulnerability.

Since the oil shock of the 1970s, when "vulnerability" first became a major concern for NATO and prompted establishment of contingency intervention forces for the Gulf to secure oil supplies, the organization's planners have been seeking to offset the Gulf factor by increasing domestic supply.

Western Europe now produces more than 30 per cent of NATO oil needs, compared with practically zero in 1975.

For NATO, this reduced dependence on supplies from members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is "highly satisfactory from the security point of view, and, in the short term, low oil prices in themselves should not affect the energy security of the alliance."

Even so, the Economics Directorate admits that if lower oil prices persist and production cutbacks result, this would accelerate the return of OPEC and Gulf dominance of the market, which would increase NATO supply vulnerability in the medium to long term. This is despite calculations by the International Energy Agency that

while oil consumption in OECD countries last year was 2.5 per cent up on 1985, it is likely to slow down considerably this year and next.

In addition, energy experts believe that oil demand will grow more slowly than the growth of total primary energy demand, with the oil share in the OECD balance diminishing in accordance with what the experts call "inter-fuel substitution away from oil."

Wilkinson concludes, however, that NATO must be wary of the oil factor, despite the signs of improvement. He says that without price fluctuations, greater NATO dependence on OPEC and in particular on the Gulf, is likely before the end of the century. The reason, he says, is that the area has two-thirds of the non-Communist world's oil reserves and very low production costs, making it the only area with sufficient capacity to meet expanding oil demands.

Wilkinson concludes that "as NATO dependence on non-OECD oil supplies increases, the area will become more vulnerable to physical disruption of supplies." Thus it could become more prone to interventionist thinking in the interests of securing its bulk fuel needs.

Tension rises in the Gulf

Al Ittihad from Abu Dhabi said that the recent developments in the Gulf area, especially after the shelling of the American frigate and the Soviet ship mine incident has raised tension to the peak. This situation calls for serious and sincere efforts to immediately end the Iran-Iraq war.

The paper commented that the area has to be internally defended and that external powers should be distanced and kept away from the region so that it will not fall prey to international conflicts.

Al Bayan, another paper from Abu Dhabi also commented on the Soviet ship mine incident and the inadvertent Iraqi raid on the US frigate which seriously escalated tension in the Gulf waters and marked the beginning of a new dangerous phase of the Iran-Iraq seven-year-old war.

The paper called on Iranian leaders, who have been turning a blind eye to numerous peace initiatives, to end the war, and not to give the superpowers the chance to intervene and fulfill their 'dreadful ambitions' in the region. It also called on Iranians to respond to the principles and teachings of Islam and act promptly to rescue

the area from those awaiting for opportunities to impose their hegemony on the Gulf region and take over its precious resources.

US opposition to Palestinian state

The Gulf Times daily English language paper issued in Qatar, criticized US President Ronald Reagan's statements concerning the Palestinian issue made in an interview with an Arab Gulf paper. It described his statements with regard to Palestinians' self-determination and legitimate rights as "passive, impractical, and as revealing a complete ignorance of facts of the Middle East region."

The paper added that it is up to the Palestinians to comment on Reagan's statements in which he expressed the United States' opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The paper concluded saying that Reagan's statements have deepened the Arabs' dissatisfaction, with the passivity and prejudice of the US Administration's policy, and the shameful stances of the US Congress.

Arabism of Jerusalem emphasized

Ad-Dustour said that in an unprecedented scene since the oc-

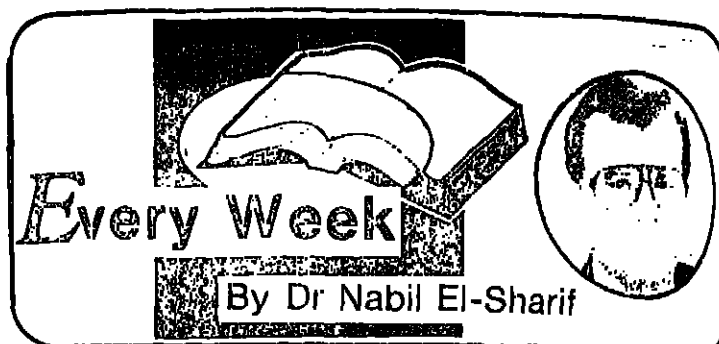
cupation of Jerusalem in 1967, over 150,000 Arab citizens, who came from different cities and villages in Palestine, were gathered in the Aqsa Mosque and its compounds to perform Friday prayers.

There is no doubt, commented the paper, that Israel has grasped the significance of the huge Muslim congregation in Jerusalem last Friday, to which Arab citizens came from all over occupied Palestine in a resounding procession to emphasize the "Arabism" of Jerusalem and its prominent position in the Arabs' and Muslims' hearts.

Stark and Irangate

The daily Al Ra'i warned that the United States is trying to use the Stark incident as a pretext for its intervention in the Gulf area, which would result in exacerbating the situation. The US is trying to minimize the importance of its involvement in Irangate by exaggerating the Stark incident.

The paper adds that there is no doubt that Irangate significantly contributed to inflaming the situation in the Gulf, and Washington is wrong if it believes that the Stark incident gives it the right to interfere in the Gulf. The paper concludes that Washington should understand that its control over the Gulf area is rejected.



Tension in the Gulf

IT WAS less than a month ago when I wrote, warning of the consequences of internationalizing the conflict in the Arabian Gulf. But that spectre is gradually becoming a reality, as both superpowers are entrapped in a position where they have no choice but to step up their presence in the troubled waters of the Gulf.

The unintentional Iraqi air attack on the USS Stark is a direct outcome of the Iranian policy of continued aggression both on the war front and in its persistent attacks on Gulf shipping. This belligerent mentality that prevails in Iran will only bring about misery and catastrophic consequences to Iran and to the whole region.

Some analysts say, however, that the stalemate war's shift of focus to attacks on Gulf shipping and the involvement of the two superpowers, carry the six and a half year old war into a new phase of heightened dangers — and, perhaps, increased chances of resolution.

But I find it difficult to partake in that optimistic outlook of the development of the Gulf war in the coming few months.

This war carries within it the seeds of destruction and devastation for the region, and a lot of misery is in store for everybody involved if nothing is swiftly done to minimize both the dangerous friction caused by international involvement in the region's affairs, and Iran's declared intentions of continuing its aggression.

The superpowers do not seem to have absorbed the lessons that should be derived from recent incidents in the Gulf — namely the inadvertent attack on the USS Stark and the earlier attack on a Soviet ship. Both seem to be intent on increasing their military presence in the area, where wisdom should call on them to intensify their joint efforts to see to it that Iran's aggressive actions are put to an end first and foremost.

The United States seems to have begun its intensive efforts to involve some of its allies in what it calls maintaining the free flow of oil in that vital region of the world.

This policy not only reduces all of the well-being, peace and prosperity of the region's peoples to a mere question of oil. It just does not seem very proper to keep repeating the same old worn-out slogans about the importance of oil for the free world when it is the lives of many innocent people in this war-torn part of the world that we are talking about.

The tension in the Gulf region is also gradually turning into a silent competition or even a beauty contest between the superpowers who are vying to win the hearts of the neutral Arab countries in the Gulf.

This competition urges on the ludicrous sometimes as Soviet and US actions seem to be conducted in much the same way with the intention of proving to the non-belligerent countries that they can count on their help and protection.

Kuwait has sought the assistance of both the Soviet Union and the United States to re-flag some of its oil tankers, and both countries readily agreed. One reason must have been the preservation of the superpowers' interests in this unannounced tug-of-war.

American Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy told the House subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East that it was US policy to prevent "enhanced Soviet influence and presence in the Gulf." He warned that the Gulf war was creating circumstances in which the Soviets may find more opportunities to insert themselves.

It was no accident, furthermore, that Murphy's visit to the Gulf region came immediately after the conclusion of his Soviet counterpart's visit to the region. Vladimir Petrofsky made a tour of Kuwait, Abu Dhabi and Muscat before his highly-publicized visit to Iran which included what was interpreted as a symbolic halt to the devastated city of Basra in Iraq. Petrofsky was the first non-Iraqi official to visit this heroic city (Even Arab officials do not make such a dangerous tour to the city that has borne the brunt of Iranian attacks for years).

Murphy stopped short of going to Basra in his Gulf tour, but his tour of the region echoed Petrofsky's tour in almost every other aspect. But it would also be logical to predict that Murphy's visit must have been an extremely tough one because it came in the wake of the Iran-Contra scandal that eroded America's credibility and casted shadows of doubt over America's proclaimed policy of neutrality in the Gulf war.

US policy in the Gulf nowadays seems to be aimed at presenting the Soviet Union from reaping the benefits of this Arab skepticism concerning America's resolve, neutrality and sincerity in finding a solution for the Gulf war.

The impression that we gather from superpowers' competition to solidify their presence in the region is not a very pleasant one. It seems that the superpowers are more concerned with scoring points and furthering their interests in the region that viewed as politically vacant, rather than looking for the root causes of agitation in the region — namely Iran's intransigence, and to do their utmost efforts to see to it that regional peace and security are restored away from international involvement.

By Pascal B. Karny
Special to The Star

The history of the Kurds is a history of struggle and oppression. Like the Palestinians, they are one of the most unfortunate peoples on earth, destined and entangled in the intrigues of great powers and of the states surrounding them. Blocked their national aspirations. Despite their great number and their role of less separate racial roots, the Kurds have not been able to obtain independence or a statehood. With the exception of the Kurds in Iraq, they have not been granted even an autonomous rule. Indeed their population of ten million deserves to be granted at least autonomy if not independence.

Kurdish geographic extent and population

Kurdistan has been rightly described by a western writer as 'a country without boundaries and a people without a state'. It is a region of great diversity, a region of great contrast. It is a region of great beauty and of great tragedy. It is a region of great hope and of great despair.

The Kurds are a free-loving, very proud, obstinate and brave people. The Kurds of the North are tall, with white complexion and blue eyes, while those of the south are shorter with dark complexion. They do not bow to foreign authority.

In effect the Kurds constitute a distinct people and many factors contributed to preserving their identity including: the fact that they live in mountainous regions which isolate them from other people, their fierce resistance in defending their territory and their somewhat economic self-sufficiency.

However their tribal formations contributed to their internal divisions, rivalries, and conflicts. Moreover, their dispersion in several countries including Turkey, Iran and Iraq and in some parts of the USSR and Syria, has impeded their unity. In addition, they have different Kurdish dialects and it seems there is so far no single literary Kurdish language.

In Iraq and Iran Kurdish is written in Arabic letters, in Turkey it is written in Latin alphabets. Ataturk in 1928 replaced the Arabic alphabet used in the Turkish language by the Latin letters. Turkey and Iran have attempted to replace the Kurdish language by their respective national languages. By contrast, Iraq (as will be explained later) has officially recognized the Kurdish language which is also being taught in schools in the Kurdish regions of Iraq.

Similarly the USSR has recognized the language, culture and customs of the Kurds. There are, in both Iraq and the USSR, newspapers and reviews in Kurdish language and contemporary Kurdish writers who contribute to Kurdish culture and literature. They have a rich heritage of poetic folklore. There are Kurds who write in other languages including Arabic.

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Another theory reverts the Kurds to Guti or Qurti people who inhabited the territory from 2400 to 2300 BC. Other writers believe that their origin goes back to the Assyrians and Babylonians. Contemporary Kurdish writers claim that they are of Median origin and are related with the Iranians.

Whatever the case may be, it is generally held that the Kurds form an ethnic pure race. There is no doubt that the Kurds are one of the most ancient peoples of the world, especially in the Middle East, and they are of a mixed ethnic origin.

The Middle East, has been the theatre for successive invasions and wars as a result of which an amalgam of peoples and races was formed. Indeed, the Middle East has witnessed the invasions of the Kassites, the Hittites, the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Arabs, the Turkomans, the Seljuks, the Moguls and the Turks, and thus no people can claim being of pure race.

Nevertheless certain enduring characters and features of a people and the country in which they have lived for a considerable period distinguishes those people from others, and this postulation applies to the Kurds.

Characteristics, language and culture of the Kurds.

Most of the Kurds live a semi-nomadic life. They migrate according to seasons from the highlands to the lowlands with their herds of cattle, sheep and goats. Others live in towns or villages or tend the farms and orchards. The Kurds are a free-loving, very proud, obstinate and brave people. The Kurds of the North are tall, with white complexion and blue eyes, while those of the south are shorter with dark complexion. They do not bow to foreign authority.

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Social structure of the Kurds

The Kurdish population is divided into urban, village people, farmers, nomads and semi-nomads. The urban people are the Min and they are increasing as the more village people move to the towns. However, villagers still form the majority. The number of the Kurdish nomads is decreasing as a result of progress and development but the two outstanding tribes of Jaf and Aki preserve their traditional customs. The semi-nomads live in the plains during winter in mud-brick houses and migrate to the high mountains to graze their cattle during summer: they freely cross the boundaries of Iraq, Iran and Turkey as nomads normally do in many countries of the Middle East.



Al Mulla Mustafa Al-Barazani

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The rural society is chiefly tribal and feudal although this kind of society is waning in the urban areas. The head of the tribe is known by the name of Sheikh or Sayyid if he attributes his ancestry to the Prophet Mohammad, by the name of Amir or Bey if he is a tribe chief and by the name of Agha if he is the head of a clan. Normally the tribe or clan hold the land in common (masha'). The Sheikh and other religious leaders are normally the only educated people in many parts of Kurdistan and they have played an important role in the political history of the region. Their influence is preponderant in Kurdish life and certain historians believe that many Kurdish uprisings (were led by religious leaders. In the course of time feudalism and tribalism have been somewhat weakened, but have not entirely disappeared. However, young educated Kurds, however, called for agrarian reform and even for revolt against feudalism and tribalism and some of them adhered to the leftist and communist ideology.

The dissemination of leftist ideas led to protests, uprisings and violence headed by the Kurdish farmers in the north of Iraq against their feudal landlords between 1950 and 1954. The Kurdish Democratic Party, in cooperation with the Marxists and the awakening of the farmers and the Kurds in general for their political rights. For obvious reasons the Kurdish landlords opposed this Party or at least did not sympathize with it.

History

The history of the Kurds has undergone varied and chequered fortunes depending on the policy of the state in which they are residing whether in Turkey, Iraq or the USSR. Historians mention that the Kurds ruled Babylon from 2300 to 2175 BC, but thereafter they were themselves ruled by the Greeks, the Romans, the Persians, the Byzantines the Seljuks, the Moguls, the Arabs who spread Islam among them, and finally by the Ottoman Turks.

During the Muslim-Arab influence in the 7th century and thereafter, many of the Kurds played a vital role in the history of the region, but only as individuals or tribes. The degree of autonomy which the Kurds enjoyed every now and then depended on the authority and power of the states surrounding them; if those states were weak the Kurds enjoyed more liberty.

During the Middle Ages there were several Kurdish Emirates or principalities ruled by hereditary chieftains with their own central

town and their own armies. Those rulers enjoyed certain autonomy but were destroyed by the Seljuks, when they invaded the region in the 11th century AD.

Then came the Ayyubids under the leadership of the well-known Salah Eddin al Ayyubi (who himself is said to be of Kurdish percentage) who ruled the region from the mid 12th century. Then came the ferocious Mongol hordes who in the beginning of the 13th century, under Gengiz Khan and his grandson Hulagu, invaded Kurdistan among other regions and spread havoc and destruction wherever they went.

Naturally, the Kurds and other peoples of the region could not resist the barbaric onslaught of the Mongols (or the Tatars as they were often called). History tells us that they burned cities to the ground like Khawarasm and Bukhara. In 1258 under the conqueror Hulagu, Baghdad was given over to plunder and flames and the last of the Abbasid caliphate was killed. In 1260 Hulagu invaded northern Syria and actually occupied Aleppo, Hama, Homs and threatened Damascus.

In the 16th century the Ottoman Turks, whose seat of authority was Istanbul (better known as Constantinople in history), extended their power over almost all the then Middle East. Iran was then under the rule of the Safawid dynasty (1502-1736) and did not fall entirely within the Ottoman Turkish embrace. However, in the battle of Chaldiran in 1514 which took place between the Turks and Persians, the Turks occupied Tigris, Mesopotamia and parts of Armenia. As the Kurds being Sunnis, the Turks sided with them against the Shi'ite Safawid dynasty. Thus the majority of the Kurds came under the Ottoman Turkish rule but enjoyed certain autonomy under their Emirs. However, from 1832 to 1847, a number of rebellions took place against the Turkish rule but were crushed.

During World War I the Kurds fought beside the Turks but the educated Kurds remained active working for the independence of Kurdistan. Unfortunately, tribal loyalties, divisions and rivalries among them was a stumbling block towards their unity.

The modern movement of Kurdish nationalism for independence was born at the beginning of the 20th century among the educated Kurds who were living in Istanbul and Cairo. After World War I, several Kurdish national committees were formed in those two cities in order to activate the Kurdish national movement. In 1920 the Treaty of Sevr provided for an autonomous Kurdistan but the terms of the Treaty were never carried out. This Treaty was rejected by Ataturk the father of modern Turkey.

Thereafter the Treaty of Lausanne was concluded in 1923 between Turkey and the Allies following the Turkish victories against the Allies (mainly France & Britain) who were intent on dismembering Turkey as they did with the Arab countries (Sykes-Pico Agreement & Balfour Declaration). The Treaty of Lausanne put an end to the Kurds hopes for an autonomous rule.

Let us now consider shortly the situation or the status of the Kurds in Turkey, Iran and Iraq, where they exist in great numbers.

The Kurds in Turkey

As mentioned above the Kurds rebelled against the Turkish government from 1832 to 1847. Turkey calls the Kurds "the Turks of the mountains" and thus it never recognized their distinct nationalism nor their language. The Kurds

rebelled again in 1925 and in 1937 but the rebellions were crushed and their leaders hanged.

Presently there is a Kurdish resistance movement for independence or autonomy but it seems to be ineffective. The Kurdish language is not recognized nor are there any publications in the Kurdish language. This situation provoked the Kurds and clamoured for the use of their language.

The Kurds in Iran

Several Kurdish rebellions took place also in Iran notably in 1930, and were faced by strong oppressive measures. During World War II and in 1941 the USSR invaded north of Iran and Britain invaded its south. In 1945 and with the help of the USSR the Kurds of Iran declared the formation of the Republic of Kurdistan which is divided between Iran and the USSR. With the withdrawal in 1945 of the Soviet and the British forces from Iran, the Mahabad Republic fell to the ground and its leaders were killed by the Iranians. Thereafter the Kurdish movement went underground.

The Kurds in Iraq

The Kurds in Iraq are comparatively speaking, much more fortunate than their brethren in Turkey and Iran, for as will be explained later, their nationalism was recognized and autonomy was granted to them within the ambit of the Iraqi Arab Republic. Iraq obtained its independence in 1932 following the British-Iraqi Treaty which ended the British mandate on Iraq imposed by Britain at the end of world War I despite the McMahon-Sharif Hussein Agreement in 1915 which provided for the independence of all Arab states. In applying for membership in 1932 in the (defunct) League of Nations, Iraq undertook to guarantee the freedom of all Iraqi citizens irrespective of their ethnic origin, religion or language. Iraq also agreed that Kurdish be the official language in areas where Kurds form the majority, and that it should be taught in their schools.

However certain sectors of the Kurds were dissatisfied with their lot and demanded complete autonomy. Some of the Kurds revolted several times under the leadership of the Barazani clan. One of their leaders is Al Mulla Mustafa Al-Barazani who did not represent all the Kurds of Iraq. The rebellions of the Barazanis is a very long complicated and intertwined story which started since Iraq's independence in 1932 and ended in 1970 with the agreement of 10 March of that year between the Iraqi government and the Kurds represented by Barazani and the Kurdish Democratic Party.

The Kurdish rebellion was encouraged by foreign powers and foreign intelligence agencies especially after the military coup in 1958 which ended eventually with rule of the Ba'ath party in 1963. Before independence the British wanted to form a semi-independent Kurdish province or several ones in the loosely linked with the central government but their efforts failed. Then Iraq obtained its independence and guaranteed the rights of all its citizens without discrimination.

It must be emphasized that on the whole the Kurds of Iraq enjoyed more freedom than others in neighbouring states. On several occasions a Kurd became a prime minister or minister or chief of staff of the Iraqi army. Very often two or even four ministers in the Iraqi cabinet were Kurds, and occupied about 25 per cent of government positions.

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JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES — 21 March-19 April

You will be in high gear this week. Think about what others want to do and be accommodating. People are willing to bend over backward if you will give a little too. You see the emotional factors in a family situation that others may miss. Avoid getting caught in the middle of a dispute you cannot resolve. Let someone else play peacemaker.

TAURUS — 20 April-20 May

Keep your schedule loose on the weekend. A phone call could turn everything around. Include people who are upset in your plans. This could be an outstanding day for your social life. Tell if like it is and a relationship will blossom into what you always wanted. You get a whole new perspective when you return to your roots. Traditional things inspire you.

GEMINI — 21 May-20 June

You may be feeling restless. Be sure to look and listen before you leap. Travel could make you even more at loose ends. Get involved with a project that requires intense concentration. Have confidence in the choices you make today. Inspiration comes from the words and deeds of others. Make the most of any opportunities that come your way. Marriage requires lots of work.

CANCER — 21 June-22 July

Even if you are difficult, others forgive you. Speculating wildly about a relationship would be a huge mistake. Think about inexpensive ways to improve your appearance and surroundings. The emphasis is on ending colour. You need to take a break. Go for a walk or a bus ride, take a cruise, or see a baseball game. Do anything to break out of your rut. Stay ahead of the thief crowd.

LEO — 23 July-22 August

A shopping spree could be costly. A sale item is no bargain if you do not really want it. Be practical. Save up and buy something that will make your life easier. Try not to take life so seriously this week. Wait until next week to do business. You need to straighten out a misunderstanding at once. Suggest a way to solve a family financial problem.

VIRGO — 23 August-22 September

Maintain a low profile today. Someone may be looking for trouble. Settle down with a good book or video. An afternoon nap refreshes you. Tackle those household tasks you have been postponing. Deal with your feelings about a previous relationship so that you can develop a better one now. Love is the strongest force in your life. Welcome an invitation or a blind date.

LIBRA — 23 September-22 October

Money wrinkles are possible. Limit spending to necessities. Leadership matters come under discussion. Others want to take over but you prevail. Romance is mostly happy. You and loved one enjoy a new report. Your judgment this week postpones making any important decisions. Periods of meditation help fuel your powerful and creative imagination. Host or attend a small gathering.

SCORPIO — 23 October-21 November

You could be resisting a change for the better just because you do not understand someone's thinking. Assume a leadership role. Family members are supportive in a time of need. A seminar is inspirational. Others may be uncooperative early in the day, but become more amenable by mid-afternoon. Show more of your true self more appreciation. Small deals can mean a lot. Be imaginative.

SAGITTARIUS — 22 November-22 December

Do not allow petty jealousy to affect your ability to meet your responsibilities. Stay active this week. Your social life could get a needed shot in the arm this evening. Enjoy yourself. Worry could cause you to say something hurtful or sarcastic. Mend something. Spend time with easy-going constructive friends. Do not be envious of others' possessions. Romance beckons. Follow up.

CAPRICORN — 22 December-19 January

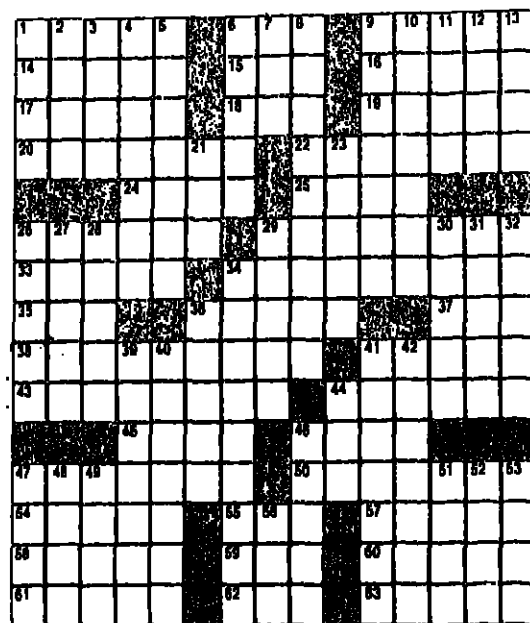
You make a decision today that will prove to be an important turning point in your life. This is no time to sit back and let nature take its course. Get going! You and your loved ones enjoy excellent rapport now. Mutual goals are easier to set, especially if they involve trying a new direction. Be truthful about your feeling when talking with mate.

AQUARIUS — 20 January-18 February

Postpone making a career decision until next week when more facts and figures will be available. Your personal magnetism helps you get your point across to a loved one. Share secrets. Give more of yourself to others and you will reap rich rewards. An intimate talk with an older or more experienced person provides you with a clearer sense of direction. Forge ahead!

PISCES — 19 February-20 March

Nervous energy could make you feel out of sorts. Someone approaches you with an exciting offer. If it is what you want, do not hesitate to accept. It could prove very profitable. Your outspoken views could meet with resistance if you do not express them tactfully. A social event could be rather boring. Spend time on a favourite hobby instead. New financial rewards are possible.



DOWN

- 1 British royal stables
- 2 Lodged
- 3 Reprimand to
- 4 Producing an effect
- 5 Emulates Sam Adams
- 6 Suspends
- 7 Big bird
- 8 Sakin treatments
- 9 Artist's activity
- 10 Round building
- 11 Opposite of apterous
- 12 Kind of vision
- 13 Auctioneer's cry
- 14 Lorna Ridd, — Doane
- 15 Rialto
- 16 March along
- 17 What some experiences in
- 18 Akim on mother's side
- 19 Vocal qualities
- 20 Gave the glad eye
- 21 Braid
- 22 Less used
- 23 Small, sweet oranges
- 24 Temporary
- 25 Aides
- 26 Job for some clerks
- 27 Sluggishness
- 28 Pandowdy
- 29 Emulate Rice or Oates
- 30 Type of party
- 31 Hawaiian city
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- 34 Askew
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- 36 Fitting

Solution to Previous Puzzle

MANORHEMFRATS
ELOPEAMA ROLOE
WINESNUN ATALL
STORINGIMMURED
ASESCAIN
TRENTETURNDOWN
RENTS MORTGAGEE
OCA BANES LAW
OUTSHINES SIEVE
PRETENDS PONDER
OLGA WIRE
SHOPPER RETREAT
TINGE IDI ITALY
ALTAR NUT NITON
GOOPS SEE GASPE

Chess solution

White is best. Though 1. K-B2; 2. R-KK1; R-KR1; 3. R-P4 and R-R4 is a pawn with a good position. 1. R-K1; 2. R-K4; 3. Q-R1; 4. Q-K3; 5. Q-K3; 6. R-K1; 7. R-K1; 8. R-K1; 9. R-K1; 10. R-K1; 11. R-K1; 12. R-K1; 13. R-K1; 14. R-K1; 15. R-K1; 16. R-K1; 17. R-K1; 18. R-K1; 19. R-K1; 20. R-K1; 21. R-K1; 22. R-K1; 23. R-K1; 24. R-K1; 25. R-K1; 26. R-K1; 27. R-K1; 28. R-K1; 29. R-K1; 30. R-K1; 31. R-K1; 32. R-K1; 33. R-K1; 34. R-K1; 35. R-K1; 36. R-K1; 37. R-K1; 38. R-K1; 39. R-K1; 40. R-K1; 41. R-K1; 42. R-K1; 43. R-K1; 44. R-K1; 45. R-K1; 46. R-K1; 47. R-K1; 48. R-K1; 49. R-K1; 50. R-K1; 51. R-K1; 52. R-K1; 53. R-K1; 54. R-K1; 55. R-K1; 56. R-K1; 57. R-K1; 58. R-K1; 59. R-K1; 60. R-K1; 61. R-K1; 62. R-K1; 63. R-K1; 64. R-K1; 65. R-K1; 66. R-K1; 67. R-K1; 68. R-K1; 69. R-K1; 70. R-K1; 71. R-K1; 72. R-K1; 73. R-K1; 74. R-K1; 75. R-K1; 76. R-K1; 77. R-K1; 78. R-K1; 79. R-K1; 80. R-K1; 81. R-K1; 82. R-K1; 83. R-K1; 84. R-K1; 85. R-K1; 86. R-K1; 87. R-K1; 88. R-K1; 89. R-K1; 90. R-K1; 91. 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Your
TV guide

Channel
2

BBC
WORLD SERVICE

Programmes from May 30 — June 5



Philip Kent (Martin Milner) and Abraham Kent (Randolph Mantooth) in **THE SEEKERS** on Wednesday at 10:20

French Programmes

Saturday

- 6.00 — Les Nouveaux Mondes, eps. 2. A documentary series in 3 parts about the land of fortune "Australia".
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — La Force Du Destin, eps. 8, part 2.

Sunday

- 5.25 — Napoleon Aventures Historiques, first part French feature film: from Toulon to Saint-Helene. The fabulous history of the "Petit General Bonaparte" who became Napoleon, emperor of France.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — La Force Du Destin, eps. 9, part 1.

Monday

- 6.00 — Marie Perenché, eps. 1. A new comedy series the adventures of a police employee.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — The Weekly Sports Magazine.

Tuesday

- 5.45 — Terre Des Bates. A documentary about birds.
- 6.10 — L'école Des Fancs. A children's programme.
- 6.40 — S'entraîner Au Tennis. A documentary programme about tennis training.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — L'aventure Des Hommes De La Préhistoire, eps. 1.

Wednesday

- 6.00 — Les Années D'illusion, eps. 4. A drama series.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — Aujourd'hui En Jordanie. A local magazine produced by Saleh Madi.

Thursday

- 5.30 — Champs-Elysees. A variety programme presented by Michel Drucker this week's guest is Charles Trenet.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — Champs-Elysees, 2nd part.

Friday

- 5.15 — Les Cinq Dernieres Minutes.
- 7.00 — News in French.
- 7.15 — Aujourd'hui En France.

English Programmes

Saturday

- 8.30 Dad's Army, Room at the Bottom.
- 9.00 Varieties
- 10.20 Feature Film, "American Gothic". A true story of an American girl who goes to Japan to learn the Geisha Art. There she meets a Japanese young man who decides to marry her. He introduces her to his family and they are totally against him marrying her.

Sunday

- 8.30 Growing Pains, "Dream Lover". When Carol tutors the Captain of the football team in English she introduces to her friends that they're having an affair.
- 9.10 On The Wheel, last episode.
- 10.20 Miss Marple, "Sleeping Murder". When Giles and Gwendolyn Reed move into their dream home in a Devonshire seaside resort, Gwendolyn finds the house strangely familiar. A series of trivial but unnerving incidents culminate in a vision of a young woman lying strangled in the hall.

Monday

- 8.30 Three Up - Two Down, "Sweet & Sour".

- 9.10 Moonlighting
- 10.20 Fair Stood The Wind For France, episode 4.

Tuesday

- 8.30 You Again
- 9.10 Strong Medicine: Cella continues her climb. She also has found love. She and Dr. Andrew Jordan (Patrick Duffy) marry and look forward to a two career marriage. Cella soon discovers that her modern husband is somewhat old fashioned and would really like her home waiting for him after a long day at the hospital.

Jessica and her family have moved to Washington, where Bill works within the Kennedy Administration. Jessica becomes restless. Though she loves her children, staying at home is not all that she thought it would be. Taking to booze to ease her unhappiness, Jessica begins to ponder her future.

- 10.20 The Unknown War
- 11.10 Bergerac

Wednesday

- 8.30 Three's A Crowd "One Ego To Go". Jack's ego is bruised when Vicky gets a raise, beats him at a trivia game, and throws a carnival baseball better than he. To impress Vicky's friends, Jack studies up on his history and acts like an intellectual, while sneaking peaks at a history book hidden in the kitchen. When Vicky and her friends discover the book, an embarrassed Jack hurries out.
- 9.10 Apartheid: At a time when South Africa is in the midst of turmoil and unrest — with many countries applying economic sanctions and news from the country subject to strict Government censorship — these four films trace its troubled history, especially in the years since 1948.

The series tries to answer the question asked around the world: How did South Africa reach its present controversial position? Using an approach similar to that used in the Gra-

BBC World Service Programme Highlights For Week Beginning Saturday, 30 May, 1987

IT'S YOUR WORLD: SADIQ AL MAHDI: The Prime Minister of Sudan, Sadiq al Mahdi, takes calls from listeners around the world when he is the guest of "It's Your World", the international phone-in programme chaired by Sue MacGregor. He answers questions on his country's political situation and famine; problems which have occupied a prominent place in the world's press for the last four years. Sadiq al Mahdi was elected Prime Minister of Africa's largest country in April, 1986 when Sudan held its first democratic elections for eighteen years. He has been described as one of the toughest and most highly educated African politicians. To take part in the phone-in, you should ring 1 1/2 hours before the transmission, or during it, on London 580 4411. If your call is selected you will be rung back — at the BBC's expense and put on the air, live, to speak to the guest.

A SONG AT TWILIGHT: Sian Phillips, Iran Carmichael and Penelope Keith star in this lesser-known comedy by Noel Coward, written twenty years ago as the first of a trilogy to mark his farewell to the London stage. "A Song at Twilight" revolves around an attempt to blackmail the central character, Carlotta, had an affair with Sir Hugo many years ago. She reappears in his life to make him pay for his compromising letters to a homosexual lover but Sir Hugo's wife is a formidable opponent.

ROBERT TEAR'S VICTORIAN AND EDWARDIAN SONGBOOK: In this new series of five programmes Robert Tear features records of some of the vast range of vocal music enjoyed by the Victorians. He explores less familiar areas such as the all-male 'glee clubs' and the effect that British musicians had on their contemporaries in 19th century America. He also looks at the musical developments of the Edwardian period.

OUTLOOK: THE DERBY: Peter Bromley gives live commentary on the 208th Derby, the world-famous race, for three years old, run at Epsom Downs to the south of London. And joining John Tidmarsh in the studio is Christopher Poole, racing correspondent of the London Standard newspaper who previews the race.

TRAINING FOR TOMORROW: The last of the series of programmes in which John Turtle gives news of the range of courses available to overseas students and trainees in Britain.

Sunday 31/5/87

- 20.09 It's Your World: Sadiq Al Mahdi
- 21.01 A Song At Twilight

Monday 1/6/87

- 01.15 It's Your World: Sadiq Al Mahdi
- 22.30 Robert Tear's Victorian And Edwardian Songbook
- 20.15 Training for Tomorrow

tomorrow

Tuesday 2/6/87

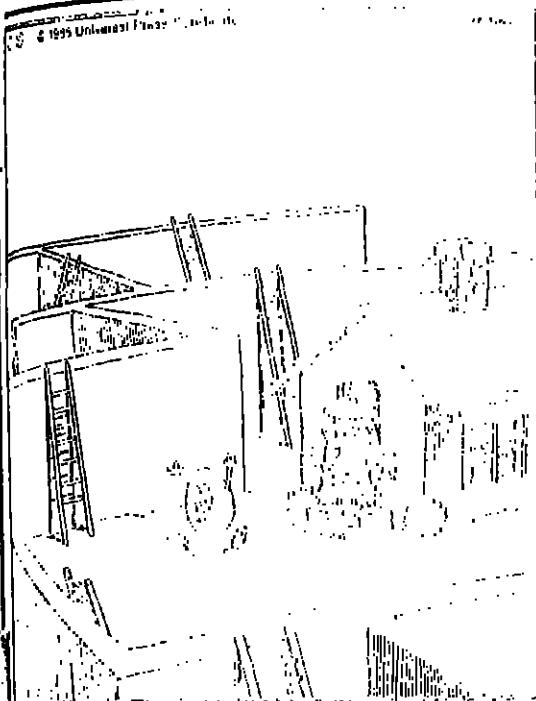
- 09.30 Robert Tear's Victorian and Edwardian Songbook

Wednesday 3/6/87

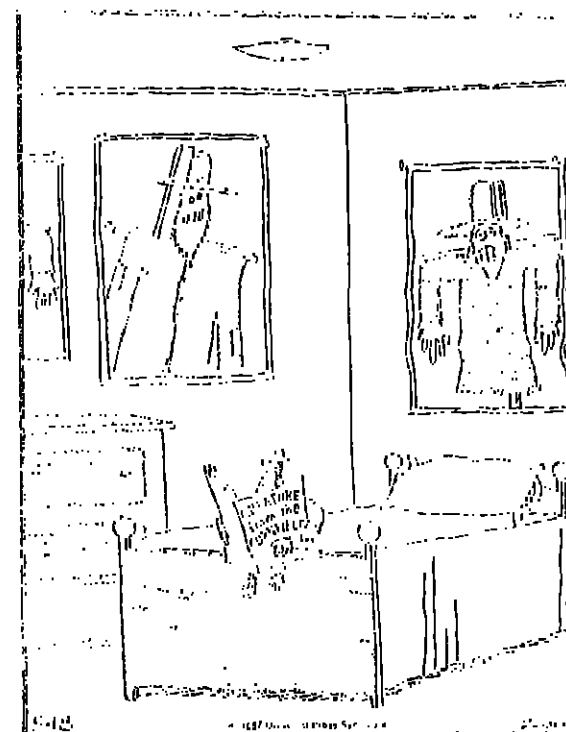
- 23.00 Outlook: The Derby

Thursday 4/6/87

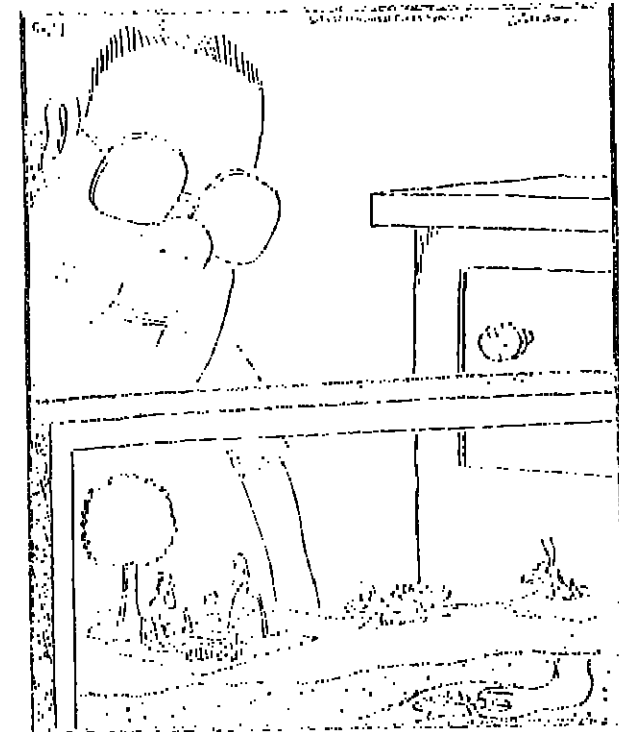
- 19.01 Robert Tear's Victorian and Edwardian Songbook



"Be back by supper time, Hump — And, as always, you be careful."



Crow kids



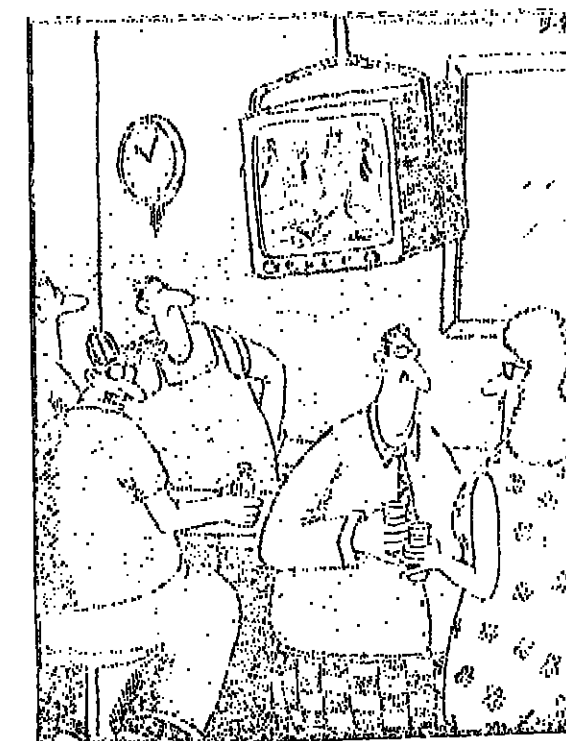
Stephen King's childhood ant farm.

THE FAR SIDE

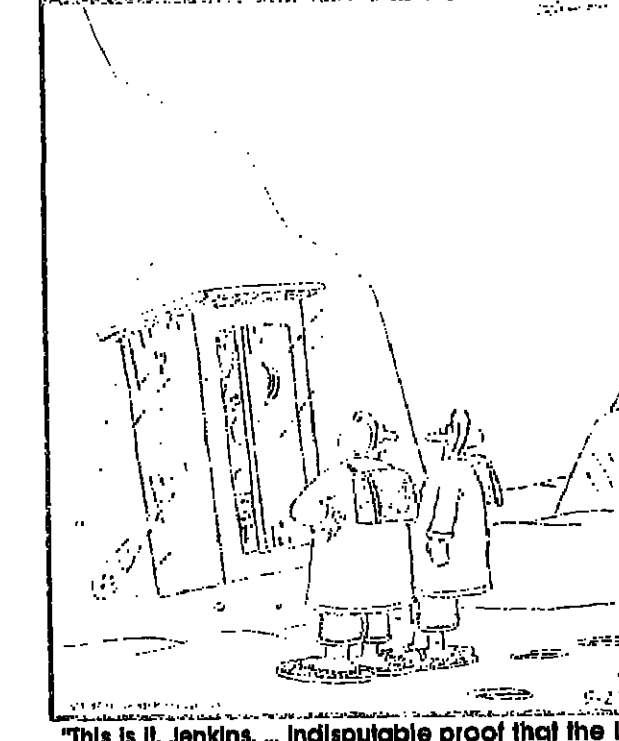
By GARY LARSON



And for the rest of his life, the young reptile suffered deep emotional scars.



"Hey, Norlon! ... Ain't that your dog attackin' the president?"



"This is it, Jenkins. ... Indisputable proof that the ice Age caught these people completely off guard."



"Mr. Bailey? There's a gentleman here who claims an ancestor of yours once defiled his crypt, and now you're the last remaining Bailey and ... oh, something about a curse. Should I send him in?"

"Well, I'm not sure. ... You don't carry any other styles?"